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TERMS { 50 CENTS A YEAR
24 NUMBERS.

7,462,000 copies of FARM AND FIRESIDE were printed during the past 12 months; therefore, the average circulation has been

310,916 COPIES
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ISSUE

At a reasonable calculation there are five members to each farmer's family; therefore, FARM AND FIRESIDE has more than 1,550,000 regular readers. FARM AND FIRESIDE has justly earned the title of

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farmer when he has money spends it freely. He has been scrimping himself badly of late, and now he has lots of things to buy with his surplus cash. The merchants in the large cities are beginning to feel the effects. Every little country and cross-roads store is stocking up to meet the present and prospective demand. I saw a few people with doleful countenances. They were the pessimists, and they realized that they are playing in hard luck, with all nature against them.

"The general outlook for corn is full of promise. The price now stands about twelve cents in advance of last year. The foreign demand has jumped the price up since July 1st about nine cents a bushel. Thus, on a crop conservatively estimated at 1,800,000,000 bushels, the increased value will amount to from \$160,000,000 to \$165,000,000. This mere increase amounts to half as much as the value of the whole wheat crop of last year, and is equal to one third of the value of the enormous corn crop of last year. It makes the smaller corn crop of 1897 worth more in the markets than the vast crop of last year. The most encouraging feature of the corn market is the fact that notwithstanding the upward run in prices the European demand still continues steady and the exports enormous. It is estimated that more than 200,000,000 bushels of American corn will be sold to the foreign countries this year. In addition to the large crop of the present year, as compared with the yield of 1894 and prior years, the granaries of the West are still burdened with millions of bushels of last year's crop. It is difficult to estimate the additional wealth of the farmers from this source. The extent to which Europe is using corn is a surprise to those who have looked upon corn as a staple but somewhat unprofitable crop. The great crop and low prices of 1896 forced corn abroad and developed an European market, and the result is that the demand continues even with the increased price, and it is certain that Europe will continue to absorb far more of this American product than was the case prior to 1896. In the excitement incident to the great advance in wheat, the importance of corn has doubtless by most people been overlooked, but it seems entirely probable that the growing of corn will be, during the next two or three years, attended with considerably more profit than of late years. The European demand will tend to keep the market steady, and the revival of trade and industry throughout the country will increase the demand for beef, pork and other animal products dependent upon corn."

LARGE sales of grain-drills this season confirm the reports of an increased acreage of winter wheat, and the question of future prices is one of great interest to growers. In the monthly statement, under date of September 14th, Statistician Hyde, of the Department of Agriculture, says:

"High prices for wheat have for several weeks past been bringing out supplies quite freely, and increased supplies have in turn reacted upon prices, causing some decline from the highest figures of August. The general tenor of the information gleaned from all available sources is not, however, of a character to warrant the expectation or the fear, according as the matter is regarded from the consumers' or the producers' points of view, of any material cheapening of wheat until another crop is in sight, with a prospect of ampler stocks.

"With an annual average European product of over 1,428,000,000 bushels during the six years from 1891 to 1896 inclusive, we exported an average of 166,373,872 bushels a year. This year the European crop, according to 'Bromhall's Corn Trade News,' will, in round numbers, amount to 1,329,000,000 Winchester bushels, or 99,000,000 bushels less than the average of the six years in question. If we make the comparison with the figures given by Beerbohm for 1897, the deficiency in the European crop is still

greater, the figures, in millions of bushels, being: Average for 1891-1896, 1,428; crop of 1897, 1,315; difference, 113.

"That is, according to Beerbohm's estimate of this year's crop, there is a deficiency of 113,000,000 bushels in European countries, as compared with their average product for the six years 1891-1896—an average which includes the exceptionally small crop of 1891. To make up the deficiency little help is to be expected from India, Argentine or Australia for the months to come, and insofar as Europe will have to import a larger quantity than usual, she will have to draw it mainly from North America, and especially from the United States, the Canadian contribution being relatively small.

"If the Argentine crop shall escape the ravages of locusts, it seems likely to turn out unusually well, and from January, 1898, when the bulk of the harvest will be got in in Argentine, that country may have more or less wheat to export, as the latest mail advices represent the crop as being in fine condition and the weather highly favorable. There are, however, many chances of serious damage during the next three or four months. The latest accounts from Australia indicate that the drought from which that country has suffered for the last two or three seasons has been broken, and that the wheat crop is giving good promise throughout most of the Australian colonies, but the area was narrowed by drought at seeding-time, and, as stocks are low, it is not likely that, even with a full yield, the crop will be one out of which any great amount can be spared for exportation. The present high prices would ordinarily tend to encourage the sowing of an increased breadth in India should the weather be favorable this fall, but any inclination on the part of the poorer cultivators to take advantage of such favorable conditions will probably be in a great measure thwarted by the impoverished condition in which they have been left by the famine in the greater part of the wheat-growing districts.

"But leaving out of view the fact that the burden of supply for Europe will fall more largely than usual upon the United States, it is evident that there would, in any case, be a demand for a larger surplus than is to be expected out of this year's crop. If, to our average annual export for the six years 1892-1897, we add an European shortage of 99,000,000 bushels, figured out by Bromhall, we get a total of 265,373,872 bushels, and insofar as we fall short of supplying that quantity, Europe, as compared with an average year, must suffer a scarcity in her bread supply, except insofar as she can avert it by drawing on the stocks that may remain out of previous crops. The world's reserves have, however, been reduced in consequence of the short wheat crop of last year, and a deficiency in some of the other important food crops will not tend to relieve the tension of the wheat market."

MASSACHUSETTS has expended \$700,000 fighting the gipsy-moth, and it will require \$100,000 annually for several years more to exterminate this destructive insect. If the work is successful, as it now promises to be, the money will be well invested, for the gipsy-moth devours everything green that grows, and is capable of doing incalculable damage.

AT Indianapolis, September 18th, the world's record for pacers was broken by Star Pointer in a special match race with Joe Patchen, for a purse of \$3,000. The time by quarters was 0:29¾, 1:00, 1:30, 2:01. Two heats had been paced the day before, Pointer taking the first in 2:04¾, and Patchen the second in 2:03. Star Pointer is now the king of pacers, holding both the highest record against time, 1:59¾, and the highest race-record, a mile in two minutes and one second.

SINCE May last several creameries in Kansas have been shipping jointly their entire product of butter to England, and have sold every pound at a profit. They are now sending a car-load every week direct to dealers in Liverpool. State Senator Hanna, of Clay county, one of the "butter kings" of Kansas, has managed this export business. It has been so successful that he says that Kansas, with her low-priced lands, cheap feeds, good cows, competent butter-makers, and exporters who will see to it that none but pure creamery butter is furnished England, will prove a strong competitor of Danish dairymen who now so largely monopolize the British butter markets. On the lines successfully followed by these Kansas creamerymen there can be profitable butter exports from many other good dairy regions of this country. The way to get a foreign market for butter is to go after it.

AFTER making an extensive tour through the western states and a careful observation of prevailing conditions, Secretary Wilson corroborates the reports of great improvement.

"All through the West," said he, "the farmers are in good spirits. They can look ahead out of the darkness which has surrounded them the past years. Money is a wonderful leaven for hard times and depressed spirits, and as the farmers are getting largely increased prices for their wheat, corn, meats, etc., even now the effect is apparent. Not only this, but the price of corn will rise still higher. An increased demand for corn will necessarily occur, by reason of the insufficiency of the wheat supply for breadstuffs. The crops of both wheat and corn will not, however, be as large through the West as many think. A portion of the corn crop is liable to get caught by frost. Still the people of the Northwest have enormous quantities of corn left over from last year, and this will advance in prices. The general result of the condition is prosperity for the country. At the bottom of it all. The merchant, the manufacturer are directly dependent upon the market, and if you give him an increased market, you give it as well to them. The

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NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

The Cost of a boy. To bring up a family of children, and give them any kind of educational advantages and privileges, costs a good deal of money. If the children then turn out well and grow up to be good and useful persons, a comfort to themselves and their parents and a benefit to the world at large, the money was well spent, and we will feel ourselves abundantly repaid. In many cases the money is worse than wasted. Too much assistance is not always a benefit either, while a little contact with the rough edges of life and the world will knock off much that is objectionable in the boy, and fit him all the more for life's tasks and battles. Often the more advantages he has the less he appreciates, values and utilizes them. A southern gentleman, as reported by *Farm and Ranch*, recently lectured on the cost of a boy, and remarked that, at the age of fifteen, "a good boy receiving the advantages of city life will cost, counting compound interest on the sum invested, not less than five thousand dollars. At twenty-one, if he goes to college, he will cost twice as much. A bad boy costs about ten thousand dollars at twenty-one, if he does not go to college. If he does, he costs as much more. And when a man has put ten or twenty thousand dollars into a boy, what has he a right to expect of him? What is fair? Is it fair for the boy to work himself to death, to run, jump, play ball, or act in such a way as would disable him or break him down? Is it fair for him to despise his father or neglect his mother? Is it fair for him to ruin himself with drink, diple himself with tobacco, or stain himself with sin? Some of us have put about all of our property into girls and boys; and if we lose them we shall be poor indeed, while if they do well we shall be repaid a hundredfold." This is a fair statement of the facts. Let the young people ponder over it.

Beekeepers in Convention. I am not a beekeeper, and yet I am greatly interested in bees, as all farmers, gardeners and fruit-growers ought to be. They fit well on the farm, and are almost necessary for best success in fruit-growing. Besides, a little honey is a fine

thing to have on one's table, and it is so wholesome, too. These considerations prompted me to visit the hall where the American Beekeepers were assembled during the great encampment week (G. A. R.) at Buffalo in August. Of course, I also wanted to see and hear the great lights in agriculture, the Roots, Hutchinson, Doolittle, Abbott, Miller, Benton, etc. In some respects I was doomed to disappointment, for I happened to come just at a time when, instead of hearing discussions of beekeepers, I had to listen to a disgraceful squabble, and when I went away, I was disgusted with apiculture and apiculturists. Does the little busy bee infect with its own fighting proclivities those who handle it? Beemen should know how a bee-sting hurts; that it leaves the poison and sting, and also that the bee, having used its poisoned dagger on another creature, usually loses its own life in consequence. Officers and prominent members, by their sensitive hotheadedness, foolishly jeopardized the usefulness and very existence of their society.

The writer happens to be a justice of the peace. Every little while somebody comes to me with a complaint. In most cases the matter, with a little good-will and reasonable coolness on the part of the parties, might have been settled easily and satisfactorily. It is my practice to suggest and urge an amicable settlement. A lawsuit costs money. Each party might more profitably yield a little, and in some way compromise the differences, than employ a lawyer and have the courts settle the point at issue for them, and when a difficulty has been compromised, how much better you all feel over it. There is no poison, no sting left. All is friendship and good-will.

With a little moderation and a little Christian self-denial on the part of the interested members all might have been friendship and good-will among the beekeepers. Why treasure up personal injuries and nurse your own wrath? Young people, especially when somewhat impressed with their own importance, say and write a good many things that they will not like to have held up to their faces later on. We all have spoken and written words that we were sorry for afterward. But can it be called Christian to save up these testimonials of indiscretion and offended self-esteem? Burn those letters, friends. For the good of the public and the beekeeping fraternity try to forget those offensive remarks. On the other hand, it never hurts a man in the estimation of the public if he will yield a little, and acknowledge that he has been hasty or harsh or wrong, and to make proper amends. That is only fair and graceful, and productive of good feeling and kind regard. Let us not stand on our dignity in such matters. Blessed be the meek and peaceful. Do the American Beekeepers wish to know what unprejudiced outsiders think of this squabble? Here it is: Mr. Benton is a meritorious, but impulsive beeman. He should gracefully make amends for all offensive personal remarks spoken or written at a time when smarting under real or supposed unfair treatment, or at any other time. He should carefully abstain from referring to the services he might render, or refuse to render, to the society in his official capacity; then he should be reinstated to full membership, and the mantle of Christian charity be covered over the whole transaction. Why not?

Preventing Injury from Early Frosts. Our fall crops, among them grapes, tomatoes, corn, etc., are late this year, and very likely we will wish for a long frostless period. How to prevent injury by the first frosts of early fall (which are usually followed by several weeks of warm weather) is a problem that has often been discussed. One of the means of protecting endangered plants is adding vapor of water to the air. Prof. Bailey, in the "Principles of Fruit-growing," says: "An abundance of watery vapor in the air probably tends to check the radiation of the earth; heat and the evaporation of water has a pronounced influence in raising the dew-point. The means of adding vapor to the atmosphere are several—spraying, flooding and irrigating, mulching and tilling. A thorough spraying of plants with ordinary cold water at nightfall, when a frost is feared, is

one of the most efficient means of protection from light frosts. The machinery which is used in spraying for insects and fungi may be used for this purpose." From the official forecast of the United States weather bureau the following is quoted: "In places where irrigation can be used it will be found of great value in protecting against frost. Let the water be turned on until the soil is thoroughly moistened. The evaporation of the water from the damp soil will tend to raise the dew-point. Since evaporation takes place near the surface this method is especially valuable in protecting low plants and shrubs, but has also been found very valuable in protecting citrus groves from freezing weather. The irrigating should be done at as early an hour as possible, preferably on the day preceding the night when frost is anticipated, and the ground kept thoroughly wet until danger from frost is passed."

Among other methods of preventing injury from early fall or late spring frosts Prof. Bailey mentions the often-discussed device of making smudges, and also that of making currents of air. In regard to the latter, he says: "Since frosts occur on still nights, it is sometimes possible to prevent them by keeping the air in motion, thereby mixing the air and preventing any part of it from lying on the plant until it shall have become frost-cold by loss of radiated heat. In small areas, as in choice gardens, it is often feasible to employ a man at night to pass back and forth waving a large fan. A windmill may sometimes be set in motion by waterpower or other means." I believe that the spraying, or watering, method is by a good deal the most feasible and practicable, and shall try to keep any late grapes, tomatoes, etc., from injury during the earliest fall frosts by spraying as suggested. T. GREINER.

SALIENT FARM NOTES.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.—October can generally be counted on for pleasant weather. Usually both days and nights are delightfully cool and invigorating, and one feels like pushing the work of preparation for the approaching winter. There is plenty of work to be done, and if the farmer will keep out of town and stick to his business he will be able to accomplish a great deal, even if days are short. In the near future we will have free rural delivery of mail, and the farmer will be able to keep posted on markets, as well as what is going on in the world. Then, instead of being compelled to drive three to nine miles to learn what the prices of corn, wheat, hogs and other farm products are, he can get the information out of his mail-box beside the front gate. This will take the "isolation" out of farm life, and the farmer's family will be on an equal footing with the family of the townsman, so far as the latest news is concerned. What a grand boon this free rural delivery will be to farmers. One can scarcely measure its possibilities and advantages. If farmers would rise up and demand it as their right they would get it, and that quickly. Why should the city man, whose place of business is but a block or so from the post-office, have his mail delivered to him four to ten times a day, while the farmer is compelled to drive two to twelve miles to get his? There is neither sense nor justice in it.

When we get this free rural delivery the long evenings of autumn and winter will have an added charm to the farmer and his family, for they can then gather around the evening lamp and listen to the news of the day from all parts of the world. They will learn what the outlook for an abundance or scarcity of the produce they are growing is as soon, almost, as the bulls and bears on 'change. They will receive important letters from friends almost as quickly as town folks, instead of having them lay in the post-office for days because they are too busy to drive in for the mail. And what is equally important, they can send letters to friends without having to carry them two to twelve miles to the post-office. Free rural delivery will be a grand boon and no mistake, and farmers everywhere should unite in a strong demand for it.

FUEL SUPPLY.—One important matter to be attended to this month is getting in a good supply of fuel. Last October, while the roads were in first-class condition and

coal dry, I got in enough to do us until July of this year, while hundreds who are obliged to haul four to ten miles got in only one or two loads. Then in winter, when the roads were almost impassable, these parties were compelled to haul more, and it took four horses to pull ten to fifteen bushels. As soon as possible after the strike is ended every farmer should get in sufficient coal to last him until next summer—until a time when he feels certain roads will be in good condition again. Those who burn wood usually haul their supplies during the winter, but the coal burner should not fail to lay in a full supply of his fuel early. I know a great many farmers who have done this for years, and now they wonder why they ever were so short-sighted as to have done otherwise.

TREES FOR SPRING PLANTING.—Another thing to be looked after this month is trees. If one is contemplating the planting of any fruit-trees next spring, this is the time to order them. A tree set at the first favorable opportunity in spring will make double the growth of one set the usual time they arrive from the nursery in spring. Get all the trees you desire to plant next spring on hand this month, or early next, and don't heel them in or plant them, but bury them. Dig a trench eighteen inches deep on one side, and sloping up to the surface of the ground four feet away on the other. Trim the trees exactly as you want them when set out, and lay them side by side, as close together as they can be, in the trench, then shovel the earth on them, covering them entirely over. Of course you will select a dry place for this—a place where water does not stand. When you lift them up in the spring you will find them alive to the very tips and ready to make a quick start and a vigorous growth.

COAL SUPPLY.—One farmer informed me a few days ago that the reason he did not buy a supply of coal to last over two months at a time was because it "evaporates" and loses much of its heating qualities if kept too long. He declared that it would not keep its heating qualities at their best more than two months. I believe he is correct in this, if the coal is thrown on the ground and left exposed to all sorts of weather. But if it is properly housed it will retain its heating qualities almost unimpaired for a year. Buy coal when the weather is dry, if you have to take it off a stage or out of coal-cars. Wet coal weighs much more than that which is dry, and you don't want to pay for water. Buy it dry and house it at once, and it will keep all right.

It is a good time right now to nail up the loose boards about the yard fences and the loose battens on the buildings. Don't wait until the blizzards howl and then freeze yourself half to death doing these things. Doubtless some knots have dropped out of the boards on the north and west side of the pig and cow sheds. Nail a shingle over these holes and shut out the cold blasts and snow that will come whizzing through them. Open the drains leading from the yards, and bank the earth taken out of them around the outsides of the sheds. Look after all these little matters while the weather is fine. FRED GRUNDY.

COST OF AN ACRE OF WHEAT.

James Glover, of Harper county, Kansas, sends the state agricultural department an estimate, which he says many good farmers approve or have verified, showing the cost at which wheat can be and is raised for in that county, on lands that can be bought for \$10 to \$12 per acre, and give yields ranging anywhere from fifteen to forty bushels per acre. His figures are as follows:

Interest on land (\$15 per acre) at 8 per cent.	\$1.20
Taxes	.13
Plowing	.80
Harrowing twice	.20
Drilling	.25
Heading	1.00
Seed, average	.60
Total	\$1.18

On the foregoing basis he places the cost per bushel on different yields per acre, including six cents per bushel in each instance for thrashing, thus:

15 bushels per acre cost	34 cents per bushel
18 " " " "	29 " " "
20 " " " "	27 " " "
25 " " " "	22 1/4 " " "

Our Farm.

FARM THEORY AND PRACTICE.

HANDLING SURPLUS STRAW.—In the northern states west of Pennsylvania there is an immense amount of wheat-straw wasted every year, or else sold at a nominal price. In some sections of this territory straw is now being sold for one dollar a ton, and not a few farmers seem to esteem themselves fortunate that the extra straw can be converted into cash on these terms without expense to themselves. This condition of things is not general in these states, but there is a considerable percentage of farmers who place no greater valuation upon straw than this price indicates. Practical men know about what any article is worth to them in the way they use it, and when we take into account the fact that a ton of straw contains, according to the analysis given, more nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash than a dollar will buy in a fertilizer, and that our soils are deficient in decaying vegetable matter that straw would furnish, we must infer that straw has not been used in the most profitable way by those who are now willing to sell it off the farm for a trifle. They have failed to get the best out of the straw, or they would never sell it at usual prices on farms remote from city markets.

STRAW FOR FEED.—Choice timothy hay is fed to many idle horses on farms that have surplus straw. The hay would bring in far more cash than all the straw. If the farmer is unwilling to cut the straw and feed with chop, it is practicable to feed it long with good results. The only point is to feed it so freely that not over half need be eaten. If the mangers are cleaned out before each feed, the refuse being passed through the stables, horses will take out half the total weight of the feed with fair relish, and with a nitrogenous grain ration will thrive upon it. While I prefer corn fodder and clover hay, I would always use surplus bright straw for wintering stock in place of timothy. If there is sufficient stock to consume all the coarse feed, that may be so much the better; but if any is sold off the farm, let it be the hay, which is usually in demand at paying prices.

STRAW AS AN ABSORBENT.—Where only a limited amount of stock is kept and there is plenty of straw, there is absolutely no excuse for a muddy barn-yard. A large barn-yard is usually a mistake, anyway. It is far more unsafe as a place of exercise for horses in the winter than a small lot. The smaller the lot the less temptation to chase each other, and the less risk in every way. For half a dozen horses an inclosure four rods square is sufficiently large. The same place may serve for a bunch of cattle, each kind of stock being let out of the stables at different hours. This inclosure should adjoin the stables, and should have a substantial board fence around it five or six feet high. The straw from part of the wheat crop should be stacked in this lot, and enough used each week to keep every foot of the ground well covered and dry. The ground should be scooped out sufficiently to prevent any drainage, and if no water runs into the lot except what falls upon it, there will rarely be more than the straw can absorb. In this way all the droppings of the stock while out of their stables are saved, and the rotted refuse, with these droppings, makes a large quantity of fair manure. Refuse corn-stalks can be scattered over the surface, and as the moisture rises in the strawy mass, and the stock tramps and breaks it, the stalks will rot, and all this coarse manure may be drawn out of the lot and scattered the next summer without any such inconvenience as those experience who feed fodder long and let the refuse lie uncovered in piles on the ground. I am far from advocating this method of handling coarse feeds in sections where they are limited in quantity, but where they are as abundant as on many farms in the great Ohio and Mississippi valleys, the farm horses and cows should never be permitted to touch muddy ground and waste manure while out of their stables during the winter for exercise or water. The small lot, with a straw-stack in it, means comfort to the stock and to its owner and an increased supply of manure.

TIME TO DRAW MANURE.—People should differ in regard to the proper time to draw

manure on account of difference in local conditions. I am best acquainted with farms that have only a limited supply of manure, and with soils that need some nursing to get rank growths of clover and grass. It is, of course, correct that manure is never stronger than when first made, and that spreading direct from the stable insures from the usual losses that attend the storing of manure for months, either in covered sheds or open pit. But it does not follow that every one can get the best results from this fertilizer by spreading as fast as made. When manure is in limited quantity its chief work should be to make a manurial crop grow. Our old soils are deficient in humus, and the lack of it is directly responsible for most failures to get catches of clover and grass. In seeding, the humus is most needed near the surface, and for this reason top-dressing of fields intended for wheat and grass usually gives as large returns from the stable manure as can be gotten. It is to me a constant matter of surprise that a little manure evenly scattered on the surface and worked into the top soil gives such marked results upon wheat and timothy and clover. Some successful farmers make it a practice to spread raw manure upon a sod for corn, but are careful to turn this sod and manure to the surface before another seeding. In this way they believe that they can get greater results from the manure, the corn crop being benefited, and yet the humus being finally left at the surface for the use of the tiny grass-plants. Manure and rotted sods at the surface not only furnish plant-food, but especially do they prevent baking of the surface and conserve moisture. When the manure is drawn to the fields as fast as it is made, it furnishes the greatest possible amount of direct plant-food; but it often pays to save the most of it for top-dressing land that needs humus as well as mere plant-food to insure vigorous growths of clover and grass.

QUANTITY TO THE ACRE.—Repeated experiment has proved that the practice of applying large quantities of manure to the acre on a limited acreage, making it necessary to leave much of the land unmanured, does not pay. Not a few farmers never apply less than twenty tons of stable manure to an acre, saying that they prefer to do well what they do, and let the remainder of the land take its chances. Twenty tons of manure on one acre, plowed under for a spring crop, makes the soil richer for years—no doubt about that—but it will not improve the productive power of a farm nearly so much as the same amount of manure used as a top-dressing on three acres, provided clover is grown with this supply of plant-food. It is poor farming to keep up a few acres near the barn with the entire supply of stable fertilizer and let thin fields fail to make heavy sods. Manurial crops are the chief dependence on a majority of farms, or should be, and enough farm manure should be used to assist thin soils wherever found, so that all the fields may increase their supply of vegetable matter and be permanently improved, and then any additional supply can be safely used to enrich the pet field from which one wants a banner crop. Granting that there are exceptions, it is the rule that manure should be kept near the surface of the soil, should be applied more frequently and less heavily, and should be used to insure a growth of some fertilizing crop.

DAVID.

DAMAGE BY FROST.

Frosts may be divided into two groups: Freezes, following continental storms, and frosts, arising from local causes. Freezes generally accompanied by great disturbances of the atmosphere, characteristic cloud formations and the importation of a vast body of cold air from the frigid North, are foretold by the weather bureau and cannot be successively fought by an individual or by a community. Frosts, being distinct from the continental storms, may bring destruction to only a single field, and may be combated, as will be shown below.

The conditions which accompany these local frosts are a dry air and cloudless, windless nights. Upon such nights the radiation of the earth's heat is unchecked by clouds and moisture in the air, and the evaporation of water, which always absorbs a vast quantity of heat, still further reduces the temperature until perhaps it reaches the freezing-point. But with the fall of temperature this water vapor is con-

densed, and dew is formed, and with the condensation the heat which was consumed in the evaporation of the water is liberated. Thus the fall of temperature is less sudden than would be the case were no water vapor present and no dew formed. The more moisture in the air the less liable is frost to occur. So if the air can be charged with an extra amount of water by spraying, upon nights when frost is expected, the condensation of this water will liberate heat and thus raise the temperature. The vapor of water will also act as clouds do—prevent the radiation of heat into space. Thus the danger of frost will be diminished by a twofold action on the part of water, but for whose presence frosts would be of nightly occurrence.

Another method of preventing damage by frost is the formation of artificial clouds, or smudges, which consist of smoke from smoldering fires made of damp litter, sawdust, rubbish or anything that will make a great deal of smoke, but which is not likely to blaze. These often prove highly satisfactory and are of easier application than water to larger plantations.

But how is the grower to know when to expect frost? If, say one hour after sunset, the air is dry and still, the sky clear and the temperature less than forty-five degrees, the thermometer should again be consulted, say at nine o'clock; when, if it registers thirty-eight degrees or less, it would be well to make final preparations for lighting the smudges already prepared, and to haul the hose for spraying. No time should be lost when the thermometer registers thirty-five degrees. Spray thoroughly; have plenty of smudges.

If a wind should spring up, or if the sky should become overcast early in the evening, smudging and spraying may usually be dispensed with.

Sometimes artificial winds made by fanning-mills have been used very successfully, particularly in the smaller and deeper pockets of rolling country. These pocket-like formations, by the way, are always the first to feel the effects of frost on clear, still nights, since the colder air drains from the high ground into them.

M. G. KAINS.

THE STEEL ROAD.

Instead of having the county or township bear the brunt of the cost of putting down a railroad for the use of street-car service along our country highways, as would be probable in putting down a roadway with steel tracks for both wagon-track and car-track combined, how would it do to make a roadway exclusively for wagon service? In this the wagon would have the right of way, there would be no danger of collision with either a car or monied corporation, and much larger loads could be hauled easily—yes, at a trot—because one would hardly ever have to turn out of the track into the dirt or gravel.

For this last condition a double-track road would be necessary. That would be advisable, anyhow, where there is much travel.

The improvements that I have in mind, upon the plan recently published, consist in what would be probably a cheaper plate, and just as good. This plan would take ordinary boiler-steel plate worked into shape by fairly light roller machinery alone, save the drilling of holes. Instead of the street-car track on the inside edge of the plate, the boiler-plate can be lapped back onto itself by one inch, and then the lap bent up to a right angle. By making the lap all projecting, sharp edges are done away with on that side. On the outer edge of the plate probably the best manner of treatment would be to bend it down more or less. This would not only do away with this sharp edge, but help to stiffen the plate also.

It would probably pay best in the end to rest the plate on steel sleepers, as the plank ones would rot out in places, to the injury of the plate for further use. As a last improvement I would suggest that the stays between tracks should be made of steel entirely and T-shaped. Instead of being one straight piece from end to end, the stays had better be bent down somewhat a little back from the ends, so that they will hold the tracks at a slope quite sufficient to run the water off the plate above.

Oak sleepers would be satisfactory for awhile, of course, but the roadway must be completely torn up occasionally to receive repairs. But if oak is used, flanged spindles should be used between the stays

underneath and the plate on top, as the decay of the oak would not then affect the stability of the plates toward each other in the least.

In steeling old roads concrete could be filled in the steel sleepers before placing in position, and thus they would be as good as oak for chucking gravel under.

GEO. E. MCCLELLAND.

WHITE-LEAD PAINT.

When the consumption of any substance becomes very general, and when its price is relatively high, men of lax consciences are sure to find means to reap unlawful profits by adulterating it. In few industries is adulteration more common than in the paint popularly known as white lead. Its use for painting has become so widespread that it has been found easy by the unscrupulous to flood the market with numerous brands, some of which contain absolutely no white lead whatever.

The chemist tells us that white lead is a basic carbonate, and is the product of the corrosive action of carbonic acid and water on the lead in its metallic form. Most of his methods for testing the purity of this compound are too complicated to be used outside his laboratory. But since analyses take time, and since the consumer usually needs to know promptly whether the sample he is about to purchase be pure, it is well for him to be provided with a simple and efficient test which he can readily apply, and which requires no expensive, complicated apparatus. Such a test may be applied as follows: In a bottle, preferably wide-mouthed, shake a teaspoonful or more of the mixed paint with four or five times as much benzine; pour the mixture upon clean, white blotting-paper and let the liquid drain away. It will take with it the oil. After the benzine has evaporated, or at least partially disappeared, mix the powder with strong vinegar, and shake thoroughly. If there is any residue, add a little more vinegar and shake again. If the amount seems the same, the lead is adulterated, the undissolved portion being proof. Pure white lead will dissolve in acetic acid, which is the basis of vinegar. Neither of the adulterants commonly used will dissolve in it.

Barium and lead sulphates are the two substances most commonly used in adulterating white lead. They are deficient in smoothness, and they lack what the painters call "body," the property so much valued in pure white lead. Both these substances are white and cannot be distinguished from the white lead by the eye, especially when mixed with the oil, but when applied to iron or wood work they peel and chip off.

In the application of white lead care must be taken to keep the skin as free from it as possible, since it is very poisonous and readily finds its way to the mouth in many accidental ways. Ordinary washing should remove most of it, but if there is still any left which cannot be thus removed, the parts may be washed with vinegar, or with water in which a few drops of sulphuric acid have been dropped. If by any chance lead-poisoning has started or is feared, a dose of Epsom salts will set matters right, unless the case is far advanced.

M. G. K.

ADVANCE IN WOOL.

Ohio XX wool is quoted in Boston at 26 cents a pound as against 18 cents one year ago—an advance of 44 per cent. Some kinds have advanced over 75 per cent.

Pure Blood

Every thought, word and action takes vitality from the blood; every nerve, muscle, bone, organ and tissue depends on the blood for its quality and condition. Therefore pure blood

Good Health is absolutely **Strong Nerves** necessary to right living and

healthy bodies. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the great blood purifier. Therefore it is the great cure for scrofula, salt rheum, humors, sores, rheumatism, catarrh, etc.; the great nerve, strength builder, appetizer, stomach tonic and regulator.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Our Farm.

MY VENTURE IN TRUCK-FARMING.

IT may interest some people who look favorably on gardening as an occupation to tell them what I am doing on my two-acre truck-farm. When living at home on my father's farm, I began to experiment in growing small fruits and vegetables. As I gained experience I gradually enlarged my plantations, and found a good market for my truck in the village near by. I finally purchased two acres of good garden soil in the village where I now live, and from my experience have developed some methods which have made some money for me.

The rotation of crops I finally settled upon was to set one half an acre of strawberries, or one fourth of my farm, every spring. These are run two years, and immediately after the last picking, or early in July, the plants are plowed under and the ground set to winter celery. The next year the same ground is set to early celery, and the next year to strawberries again. Cabbages and cauliflower are grown between the strawberry rows during the first year while growing the plants. This plan gives me each year one acre of strawberries, one acre of celery, and one half an acre of cabbages and cauliflower.

The strawberry-bed receives a heavy dressing of stable manure before the plants are set; also the two following winters for a mulch, making three dressings in about two years. In this way the land is made rich enough for celery. The celery is grown by the method of close planting—that is, in rows from one foot to eighteen inches apart—and it is irrigated from a brook near by, for irrigation is indispensable with such close planting. The early celery is blanched with boards, and the winter celery is stored in the cellar, or in trenches out of doors, where it blanches well.

I have quite a large trade in plants, especially celery-plants. Sometimes I do quite a business in forcing lettuce and radishes in hotbeds for the early market. The fence around my place is lined with grapes, raspberries and currants, from which a small income is obtained. With a view of reducing my expenses for fertilizers, I began a few years ago to keep hens. My flock was increased to about four hundred, and a large hennery was built. I try to feed and care for my hens after the most approved methods, and make them fairly profitable. In addition to my poultry manure and that from my own horse I usually purchase about seventy-five loads of manure, and pay fifty cents for a one-horse load.

Two men are required to do the work in the summer, as the greater part of the produce is sold from the market-wagon, which takes one man on the road about one half of the time. I am within one to two hours' drive of four large villages, and in these and my own village find a market for all my truck. I usually grow about 40,000 bunches of celery, 200 bushels of strawberries, and 5,000 cabbages and cauliflowers. My net income from these should be about \$1,000, although it will vary with circumstances. On the whole I am well satisfied with my venture in truck-farming. But in this business, as in other vocations, it is only the experienced and skilful workman who is a hustler that "gets there."

July 25th I marketed early celery. The sales from the same field last year were at the rate of \$2,000 an acre, and it promises to do as well this year. I have worked up a good trade with some fashionable hotels and summer resorts along the line of the railroad which goes through my village. The celery is shipped to them by express in small baskets holding two or three dozen. For this celery I get from thirty-five to fifty cents a dozen, according to quality and seasons. The celery that is shipped to dealers is put up in six-dozen baskets; for this I receive from twenty-five to thirty cents a dozen. I also send a man out with the market-wagon nearly every day to one of the near-by villages with a load of celery and other truck. This celery is retailed at from four to five cents, and usually nets

me over three cents after paying the salesman and other expenses. I have been able to make some money from this early celery, but there are some difficulties to overcome in growing marketable celery at this time of year, so there is less competition and prices are higher than when the market is full later in the season. It is only after many experiments and some failure that I have been able to make something of a success of it. I would say to the amateur, go slow, and increase your planting when you have learned about its culture and how to market it.

W. H. JENKINS.
Delaware county, N. Y.

HELPS IN FEEDING ANIMALS.

Careful planning is a necessary part of successful work. This means the right use of one's brains. Where the plans are all right and there is ability and willingness to execute them, good results should follow, as a rule. There is not an absence of plans on most stock-farms. There is, however, too often a need of much better management than the plans of the place afford. In fact, it is often true that the plan of work followed in some instances involves much heavier labor and in turn yields the poorest results. Some men seem to be unable to do anything except in the hardest way. Fourteen hours are required in some cases to accomplish certain results when still better returns follow a better management which may not require but half the time as compared with the other plan. The thoughtful man who looks ahead, using his observation and seeking continually to know the best methods of work employed by his fellow-men, finds enjoyment in his avocation, and renders the duties of those about him more agreeable and to the least degree burdensome. There are farmers who will all their lives draw the water from an open well with a rope and pail in the hardest way possible, while others are alert to find the best pump, and besides this employ artificial power to do the work. The first policy of affording water for the live stock usually fails in an adequate supply. In consequence, the food consumed by animals, from a lack of proper moisture, does not afford the gain in weight or strength to the animals to be expected. The better policy affords the proper help intended by nature's liquid, and the animals thrive to best advantage.

In the use of condiments too many men are lacking in system. Too often the salt is distributed by handfuls on the rich black soil, where a share of it is wasted, and too often an undue amount is consumed by some of the animals, when others obtain but a scanty mite. Method in so little a thing in the course of a few years yields great gains. Putting out the salt in open ground where there are a number of animals results in a share of it being trodden under the soiled feet and lost to the sensitive taste of some of the creatures. If no troughs or boxes are provided, at least the salt should be mixed with wood ashes or cob cinders, and placed in moderate handfuls beside a fence, stumps or dead trees, which will reduce the probability of the animals stepping into it. It is better, usually, to use lumps of rock-salt placed in a sheltered spot, accompanied by the ashes or cinders, the latter supplied fresh two or three times a week. There are numerous helps which one may learn by consultation with his neighbors and from interviews with successful feeders, of which the ambitious man will endeavor to avail himself.

Where the climate is not too rigorous, in the case of the animals that are half grown and older, the policy of feeding in winter in the shelter of hedges, groves or tight fences is to be preferred during moderate weather, compared with the unusual burdens of stall-feeding attended by the cleansing of the barns and sheds. When grain is cheap, with hogs to gather up the shelled and scattered corn, the waste from feeding in open yards or on the grazing-grounds is reduced to a minimum. There is wisdom in planning to avoid work as well as in seeking to do one's duty in the best way. A wise economy looks to a right expenditure of time and resources, if abundant returns are promised for such pains.

M. A. R.

THE BARCOCK TESTER, when properly and honestly handled, will tell you the value of milk as milk. It will keep you from buying 50 per cent milk and paying a 100 per cent price for it.—Jersey Bulletin.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM FLORIDA.—Three neighbors and myself are all small farmers. All our land together only amounts to 40 acres. Last spring we made among us \$725 hard cash out of vuela ahajo tobacco. Next spring we expect to make twice as much from tobacco, because we know more about growing it and we shall have no other spring crops to take our time.

H. H. T.
Fort Meade, Fla.

FROM FLORIDA.—Green Cove Springs lies on the beautiful St. Johns river, thirty miles south of Jacksonville, and is the county-seat of Clay county. We have good shipping facilities both by rail and water. We have some very fine medicinal springs. The lands are well adapted to fruits such as orange, peach, plum, pear, grapes, berries, etc. Considerable grain is raised, and those owning herds of cattle are quite successful. Many persons come here to be benefited who have weak lungs, rheumatism or other complaints. Many are helped and some cured. There are a great many weak-lunged people in the north that could prolong their lives by coming here.

Green Cove Springs, Fla. J. S. W.

FROM TEXAS.—Southern Texas, especially the country around Wallis, is truly the garden spot of this land of promise. The temperature is always mild; the farmer can work in the fields twelve months in the year and raise crops of various kinds continuously on the same land. This region produces all the products of the middle and western states, besides many others. Our natural grasses are varied and equal to those of Kentucky and Indiana. Our crops mature in a short time and pay a large profit. There is only a small part of the United States where fat cattle can be marketed from grass alone in the month of January, and this section is southern Texas. Rich farming lands convenient to market can be purchased for from \$10 to \$15 an acre on easy terms. With a mild climate requiring no large outlay, costly improvements or winter clothing, and cheap productive land within easy reach of railroad transportation, this may be truly called the poor man's paradise. The land is black waxy and black sandy prairie, with timber enough along the streams for fuel. Here a man of moderate means has a chance to get a home. Water is of fine quality and easily obtained. We have good schools, good churches and good society. I came from the North here, and must say the people here give every assistance to those that try to help themselves. A more law-abiding people I never saw.

H. J. C.
Wallis Station, Tex.

COASTED DOWN THE CAPITAL STEPS.

A BICYCLIST AT WASHINGTON, D. C.,
SUCCESSFULLY PERFORMS A
REMARKABLE FEAT

The other day a bicyclist at the National Capital accomplished a novel exploit. He wagered with a friend that he would coast from the top to the bottom of the grand stairway of the Capitol building. The stairway is over fifty feet in height, and



it is a pretty rocky road to travel on a bicycle. Nevertheless, the young man safely accomplished the feat.

It takes pluck and steady nerves to successfully carry out an exploit of this description. The least shakiness of the nerves, the most trifling quiver of the wrist would have meant broken bones and possibly a broken neck for the adventurer.

But it is not for fool-hardy exploits like this that the average man needs a sound mind in a sound body and plenty of stamina backed by steady nerves. The fight for the survival of the fittest in this end of the nineteenth century tries men more than ever before in the history of the world. That is because it is now a struggle of nerve and mental power, where in the old days it was simply a question of physical endurance. Even the ordinary laborer to-day needs a higher grade of intelligence than the leaders of a few centuries back. He must exercise his brain as well as his muscle.

Nowadays the man who suffers from ill-

health, who gets up in the morning with a headache, and without an appetite, and is indisposed for work or business all day, and who returns to his home fagged out and despondent at night, and goes to bed almost supperless to pass a restless, sleepless night, is a candidate for failure in any walk of life, from that of the laborer to the business or professional man. Moreover, these symptoms are but advance warnings of the coming of a disastrous physical or mental breakdown. They are the result of insufficient or improper nourishment of the body. Blood, flesh, bone, muscle, nerves and brain do not receive the right kind of food or the right amount of it. Serious disease will be the result and it will strike the man at his naturally weakest point. If the weak point is the lungs it will be consumption; if the nerves, it will be neuralgia, sciatica or general or nervous debility; if the kidneys, it will be Bright's disease or bladder trouble; if there is an overworked brain, it will be nervous exhaustion or prostration and possibly temporary insanity.

The exact form of the disease doesn't cut any figure. The cause is the same in each case, and the cure is the same. It doesn't do a bit of good to treat for the outward manifestations. The doctor who tries to treat nervous prostration, or consumption, or rheumatism, or Bright's disease, or malaria as separate, primary diseases is a nincompoop. He is just as foolish as his patient. Like him, he is simply juggling with the real disease—trying to cheat nature—to play a confidence game on death. The only way to cure is to properly treat the cause.

There is a sure and speedy cure for all these troubles and the conditions that lead up to them. It is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It corrects all faults of the digestion. It gives healthy zest to the appetite. It makes the stomach strong and healthy. It increases the flow of digestive juices. It puts the lazy liver to work. It assists assimilation and fills the blood with the life-giving elements of the food. It makes rich, red, pure blood and sends it to every part of the body, renewing and rejuvenating every tissue and fiber. It builds new flesh tissues, new nerve fibers and new brain cells. It gives new life. It cures 98 per cent of all cases of consumption. It is a speedy remedy for nervous troubles of every description. It is not a cure-all, and only cures one class of diseases, all traceable to the same cause—insufficient and improper nutrition. All first-class medicine dealers sell it. If honest, a dealer will not urge you to take some inferior substitute. Thousands have testified to the marvelous merits of this remedy.

Mr. John Brooks, of Boylston, Worcester Co., Mass. (Sawyers Mills), writes: "I feel it my duty now to write to you to tell you of the great benefit I have received. About a year ago I was taken with a bad cold which settled on my lungs. The doctors said I was in consumption and could not get well. I took Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil and it did me no good. After taking it four months I heard of your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and wrote to you for advice. I have taken your medicine and it saved my life. I felt so sick when I wrote to you that I thought I would not live the winter through. In the morning I raised an awful lot and would spit all the time and had pains in my chest. My bowels would not move more than once or twice a week; my strength was nearly gone; I could not do a whole day's work. Now my bowels are regular every day and I feel no more pain in my chest. Feel a great deal stronger. I am working hard every day, driving a team in the woods, and I owe my thanks to Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I know it saved my life. I cannot praise it enough. I am proud to tell my friends what cured me."

When a man's liver is out of order he is ripe for almost any disease that happens along. His entire constitution is in a state of receptivity and is ready for contagion of any description. The "Golden Medical Discovery" is the best of all known liver invigorators. It will put the laziest of livers on a lobe in no time. It makes your liver lively and your blood pure. It is the best of spring medicines.

The best home doctor book extant is Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. It makes a competent nurse of every wife and mother. It contains 1008 pages and over 300 illustrations, some of them in colors. It is free. Send twenty-one one-cent stamps to cover cost of mailing, to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y. For a cloth-bound copy send ten cents extra—thirty-one stamps in all.

Our farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

WASTED FOOD PRODUCT.—In former issues of FARM AND FIRESIDE I have repeatedly called attention to the important subject of edible fungi, or mushrooms, which the meadows and woods often yield in great liberality and without effort on our part. I have mentioned the giant puffball as one of the choicest of these fungi, and now, after having had several messes of them again recently, I am moved to say another good word for it, especially as my eye just happened to fall upon a bulletin issued last fall by the Alabama agricultural experiment station. This bulletin says about puffballs: "When dry they are variously known as 'puffballs,' or 'smokeballs,' and in some portions of our state are known under the name of 'devil's snuff-boxes.' The clouds of dust which rise from these when crushed are the reproductive bodies, or spores, and are produced in prodigious quantities. These appear only when the plants are fully ripe. It is in the young condition that these 'puffballs' are edible, and they are fully as nutritious, weight for weight, as beef-steak. There are a large number of species widely distributed throughout the country, and several of these are common in Alabama. The various species vary in size from that of a marble to that of a man's head, or even larger. When young they will appear of a pure white color when broken in two, and of a consistency somewhat intermediate between cottage cheese and curd. When the spores commence to ripen the interior becomes softer and soon

stable manure, and perhaps some concentrated special fertilizer, are thoroughly worked into the soil at the bottom. Sometimes one and sometimes two rows of celery are set in a trench, and when the plants are large enough the earth that was thrown out is thrown back again and used for banking, or more recently the blanching is done with boards, as in level cultivation. Inconveniences beset the work of growing celery by this method on every side, yet the method itself possesses some peculiar advantages. First, it invariably provided a very rich soil for the plants to grow in. Second, the plants being below the surface of the ground, any surplus water in the soil naturally gravitated toward them. Third, the roots of the plants were slightly protected from the burning heat of the midday sun. Now, it was found that with level culture the soil could be made rich enough, and also that the plants could be supplied artificially with water; but to provide the third condition, namely, to keep the temperature of the soil about the plants from rising too high during hot spells in summer, has always been an unsolved problem to celery-growers not having peculiarly cool soils since the level culture was adopted.

If we want blanched celery as early as we can get it, of course we must begin the blanching process just as soon as the plants are large enough—say twelve to fifteen inches high. If we are in no particular hurry, we can let the plants in trenches get somewhat larger. And the same rule, of course, also applies to plants that are set on the level. These, if to be blanched by earth banking, must be made to grow up-

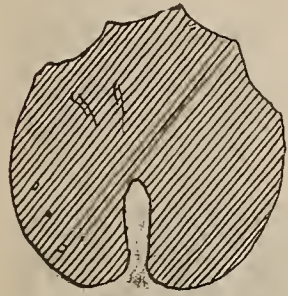


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

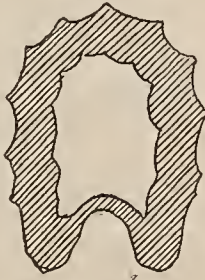


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

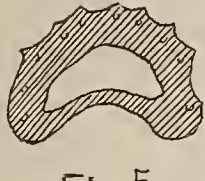


Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

CROSS-SECTIONS OF LEAF-STALK OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF CELERY.

takes on either a purplish or olive color, according to the color of the mature spores. It is only when the flesh is white that they are suitable for food, and at this time they may be sliced thin and fried in butter, after first removing the outer skin. All the species of thin-skinned puffballs are edible, but with few exceptions the smaller ones are not as valuable as the species that vary from the size of one's fist upward." Sometimes one comes across very large specimens (as large as a peck measure), and farmers' boys often kick and throw them about, then telling that the puffballs were solid and white as a turnip, but little dreaming that they were foolishly wasting a most excellent and valuable food product. The way we have them usually prepared for our table is by cutting in rather thin slices, then dipping in beaten egg and rolling in cracker-crumbs, and then frying in butter. The taste is rather mild, unpronounced, and therefore inoffensive, something like fried veal.

BLANCHING CELERY.—One of my friends (from West Virginia) wants me to tell him when to begin drawing the soil up to celery that is planted in trenches, and how to winter it in the cellar. Nowadays we do not believe much in planting celery in trenches, not only because digging trenches involves too much labor, but also because we dislike to plant in the poorer subsoil. If we want to plant deep, we have to dig even deeper than we wish to plant, and then fill in again with rich surface soil. In a bulletin recently issued by the Rhode Island station, the trench method (now almost forgotten) is described as follows: "Trenches are dug three or four feet apart, six inches or more in depth, and a foot or more in width, with perpendicular sides; from two to four inches of decomposed

right (as they will in a trench from their own accord) by having the earth drawn up to them from both sides. This work may be done with a hoe or with the hands, the operator in the latter case working on hands and knees. After that the banking may be done with the plow and spade, or possibly with one of the modern celery-hillers. I blanch my celery by boards only, and these are set up soon after the plants are put out. I have my own plan of celery-growing, and shall soon give this in all its details and with illustrations. Will also have more to say about the wintering problem.

CELERY VARIETIES.—This year I am growing five different kinds of celery—White Plume, Golden Self-blanching, Pink Plume, Rose Ribbed and Giant Pascal. One of their most characteristic differences may be found in the cross-section of their leaf-stalks. The Rose Ribbed (Fig. 1) seems to represent an entirely new type of celery. The leaf-stalk is almost solid, and often nearly round as a pencil, but of course much larger. The color of the stalk is a very dark pink, almost red, and for that reason our markets do not take kindly to it. It needs more care in blanching than our ordinary self-blanching varieties, but when properly handled is a most desirable thing for the home garden. We prefer it for the table to all other sorts which we have or know of. My Golden Self-blanching (Figs. 2 and 3) is not a bad sort, perhaps not quite as vigorous as the White and Pink Plumes, but when forced up to make large growth is liable to give quite a percentage of hollow stalks. White Plume (Fig. 4) is my stand-by for market. Under our board-blanching system (a modification of the "new celery culture") it blanches sufficiently to sell in

competition with celery grown by any other plan. My Pink Plume (Fig. 5) is very tall, the tallest in the lot, but the individual stalks seem to be slender and inclined to be hollow. Giant Pascal is yet my stand-by for late and winter use. Cross-section of leaf-stalk is shown in Fig. 6. More about celery and celery varieties later on.

T. GREINER.

ORCHARD AND SMALL FRUITS.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Apricots Not Fruiting Well.—J. T. Weeping Water, Neb. I think your apricots will probably set better as the trees get older. The trouble does not seem to be due to any insect injury.

Trimming Maples.—E. C. W., Ohio. Maples may be safely trimmed in the autumn from now on, in mild days in winter or in early spring. I prefer fall pruning if the wounds are covered with a thick coat of paint. The big wounds should be painted whenever pruning is done.

Gall-insects.—Springfield, Ohio. There is practically no remedy for the gall-insects such as infest the hickories, sample of the leaves of which you send. These insects have their ups and downs, and after a year or two of great abundance are pretty sure to become greatly lessened in numbers and perhaps almost to disappear by reason of the multiplication of their parasites. I think this will be the case in this instance.

Renewing Strawberry-bed.—A. Mc., Ill. Your strawberry-bed should have the grass cleaned out of it at once, and on the approach of winter be mulched with three or four inches of hay, straw or similar material. To be sure, the grass and weeds in the bed might answer for winter protection, but the plants cannot properly develop under such conditions. You must give good cultivation if you want a good crop.

Blackberry-bushes Dying.—H. R. D., Adam Centre, N. Y. I think the trouble with the blackberry-bushes is due to the presence of some fungous disease, and that early spraying of the canes, before the leaves expand, with sulphate of copper solution (one pound to fifteen gallons water), and one other spraying as the leaves expand, with Bordeaux mixture would largely prevent it, but I do not think we are liable to have a continuance of its ravages from year to year on vigorous varieties.

Apple Seedlings.—A. W. H., Blandinsville, Ill., writes: "Do you think it would pay to plant apple-seeds and raise my own trees and bud or graft them with the kind of apples I want? If so, when is the time to plant the seeds and how to care for them and the kind of soil needed?"

REPLY:—I do not think it would pay you at all to try to raise your own seedling apples and then graft them, for nurserymen can sell you trees cheaper and better than you can raise them; but you can easily do it in a small way and might find it interesting if not profitable. I think your best way will be to mix the seed of hardiest varieties with clean sand, place in a box, bury outdoors, and sow in the spring in loose soil as soon as the ground is warm.

Bark-beetles.—C. W., Elizabethton, Tenn. The small borer which leaves your peach-tree's bark as if it had been filled with small shot-holes is undoubtedly a species of Scolytus, or bark-beetles. These small beetles are very destructive to the trees they inhabit; they generally attack trees that are weakened by borers by transplanting or otherwise. They live in the trees in the larval stage as small borers, and the holes are made when the mature insect burrows its way out of the tree. There are several broods each year in the same tree, and the insect seldom, if ever, spreads rapidly to healthy trees when weak trees are to be found. The remedy is to dig and burn all infested trees as soon as noticed. In the case of specially valuable trees that appear slightly weak, an examination should be made, and if the Scolytus is the cause the small beetles should be removed and the tree painted with whitewash and Paris green, and given plenty of fertilizer to stimulate its growth.

Wintering and Planting Chestnuts and Acorns.—R. E. H., West Farrington, Conn. In soil that does crust over hard in winter you can safely sow chestnut and acorns in the autumn as soon as gathered, unless there is danger of mice or squirrels digging them up. But a safer way is to mix the seed with sand in a pit on top of the ground, as soon as gathered, in this way: Put down a layer two inches thick of nuts, then two inches of sand, mixing it among them, and so on, layer by layer, and then cover the whole with sand or loam. If you have but a small quantity, mix with sand in a box and bury outdoors. The end to be accomplished is to keep the nuts fresh without getting them water-soaked until spring. In the spring plant the nuts where the trees are to remain, putting three or four in a place in good soil. If planted in sod, spade up a little place for each planting; if planted in cultivable land, plant in the hill with beans or corn.

Pears Dropping—Fruit-trees Not Bearing.—Orchardist, Dayton, Ohio. I take it from your question that the trouble with your pears is that they drop off because they are wormy. The worm that infests them is probably the larva of the codling-moth, which also makes apples wormy. The remedy for this is found in spraying the trees, soon after the

flowers fall and before the pears turn down, with Paris green and water at the rate of one pound of Paris green to 125 gallons of water. When this is done some of the poison remains in the calyx end (the eye) of the pear, which is the place where the codling-moth lays its egg; on hatching from the egg the grub is poisoned as soon as it commences to eat into the fruit. It is impossible to answer in a few words your question why pears, plums, etc., do not bear fruit without knowing something of your conditions. Fruit-trees fail to bear from their being very closely crowded together or shaded so that they do not get much sunlight; from the flowers being killed by a late spring frost when they are open; from the lack of proper fertilization of the flowers; from winter injury that kills the buds before the growth starts in spring, and from insect injuries of the flowers or buds. Some varieties do not bear until they are quite old. Now, your trouble may result from any one or more of these causes, and if you will explain your situation, method of planting and varieties, perhaps I can help you.

Evergreen Hedges.—F. A. R., Billings, Mo., writes: "While touring through California recently I was delighted with the variety of evergreen ornamental hedges, mostly cypress. Is it the same variety of cypress as that which grows in the lowlands of the southern states, and would it flourish in this latitude? If not, can you recommend to me a desirable evergreen for ornamental hedge and tell me where I can get the seed, how to cultivate it, etc.?" Our nurserymen here seem to know nothing of such matters.

REPLY:—There are several kinds of cypress cultivated in California. The form from the southern swamps known as bald-cypress might, and very likely would, stand with you in protected locations, but is liable to sunscald, and the California forms I should think would be about as hardy. I think the sorts grown in California are mostly from Europe. A good, strong-growing, pretty, hardy hedge-plant is found in what is known as Douglas spruce, which is a native of wide range in the Rocky mountains, has delicate, feathery branches, and will, I think, be a good plant in your section; its botanical name is Pseudotsuga Faxifolia. The red cedar is a good, hardy, small evergreen, the objection to it being that it turns brown late in winter. The sorts mentioned are coniferous evergreens, but some of the privets are nearly evergreen and make very nice ornamental hedges. The kind known as California privet I think the best for you to plant. You can get the seed of Douglas spruce, Colorado grown, and other Rocky mountain evergreen seeds and plants from Rev. C. S. Harrison, Weeping Water, Nebraska, who sells it for the benefit of Weeping Water Academy.

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THE POULTRY YARD.

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CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

A GREAT many persons whose fowls die from roup attribute the cause to cholera, owing to their inability to diagnose the several diseases. There are two forms of so-called roup, however, which are very contagious, and from them the term roup comes. The first is diphtheria (known as "canker" roup), and it spreads rapidly, owing to the entire flock drinking from the same vessels and eating from the same sources. The other is the well-known scrofula, which is manifested by sores, great lumps on the face, or even as carbuncles. The hoarse breathing and frequent suffocation of birds is due to catarrh or croup, showing all the symptoms thereof. Consumption is a very common disease, and it soon spreads, as the germs are deposited over the runs, thus rendering every fowl liable. It may exist for a few weeks or last for several months. The birds gradually waste away, dying off one by one until all are gone. Consumption of the bowels mostly occurs with very young chicks, and it sweeps them away rapidly. The use of remedies is of but little avail, for it is impossible to treat such disease in the food (many birds having no appetite); and it is also dangerous and useless to give medicines by hand, to say nothing of the labor in so doing. All such remedies, as kerosene in the food, copperas in the drinking-water, etc., are about as efficacious for fowls as for humans. In fact, it is just as difficult to cure consumption in a fowl as in a human, which should prompt every one who finds any contagious disease in his flock to resort to heroic remedies at once, and destroy all of his birds. This may be a sacrifice, but it is better to sacrifice them than incur the risk of loss of life of some member of the family. The bodies of the birds should be burnt or deeply buried, and unless every square inch of space formerly occupied by the birds is disinfected (not only once, but several times), it will be a risk to procure new birds, as the germ of the disease will be left and the disease appear again.

IMPROVEMENT BY SELECTION.

To increase the egg-producing capacity of a flock requires selection. The mistake made is not in the selection of the hens, but of the male, as he is the sire of all the chicks hatched. Eggs from the best layers only should be used for hatching, and the male should be hatched from an egg laid by the best hen in the flock, using only pure-bred fowls, and avoiding kinship if possible, as prolificacy can be transmitted to the progeny. If this rule is adhered to there will in a few years be a marked improvement in the number of eggs laid by each member of the flock. The difficulty is to discover which hen in a flock lays the largest number of eggs. This cannot easily be done, except by watching the hens, which is impossible; but the difficulty is lessened by using small flocks, as then the hens are known. One method is to have the nests in a location so arranged that after a hen lays she cannot get back into the yard from which she came, but must pass out of an entrance leading into another yard. At night all the hens that have laid will then be together, leaving the others in the first yard.

GREEN FOOD IN THE FALL.

Green food is still plentiful, as the hens can find many substances which answer the purpose, and it is only in the winter, when the food is dry and the hens confined, that the difficulty of affording a supply of a variety of green food is met. Variety in green food is better than one kind. The term "green food" does not apply to grass or cabbages only, but includes any kind of bulky, succulent foods, such as clover, corn-fodder leaves, cabbage, chopped beets, ensilage (finely chopped), cooked potatoes, turnips or carrots. The object is to give bulk in order to dilute (if it can be so expressed) the concentrated grains. These foods are the cheapest that can be used, and lessen the cost of production of eggs, not only by promoting the health of the fowls, but also because such foods assist in the digestion of the more costly kinds. In feeding green food it can be done by giv-

ing cabbage one day, clover the next, potatoes the next, and so continue into the variety. The object now should be to lay in a supply of such articles and have them ready for use when winter comes. Grass is the cheapest of all foods for poultry in summer, and the farmer who feeds grain at that season is not only increasing the cost of eggs, but taking the risk of causing indigestion. On a range the birds get seeds, insects and a variety of grasses, including young weeds. Ducks and geese are gross feeders, and can easily secure more than they require, while turkeys and guineas are the best insect-destroyers.

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THE MALE.

A long, leggy fowl is usually of coarse bone and contains a greater proportion of offal than one compactly built. There are some breeds that are naturally tall, but there are also individuals among them more compact than the others, and they are the ones that should be selected as breeders, provided they are good in other respects. A vigorous, compact male should always be given the preference, but he should not be too short-legged in proportion to his body. The object should be to secure breadth of backs, deep breasts and heavy bodies according to size.

GAPES ON OLD FARMS.

Gapes prevail on old farms more than on new locations, due to the fouling of the soil during years of occupancy. Chicks should be kept on clean board floors, or on new plots of ground, the object being to avoid any location that may have been occupied by fowls or chicks during any former year. One of the methods adopted by those who have been successful is to spade a piece of ground and scatter a mixture of one part salt and ten parts air-slaked lime on the surface, raking it well with a fine-toothed rake.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Incubators.—J. G. E., Oakhill, Ill., writes: "At what time of the year do the broiler-farms begin with incubators?"

REPLY:—Usually about September or October to produce the early lots.

Hens Not Laying.—E. S. L., Midway, Mo., writes: "My hens have a free range, are given plenty of wheat, appear healthy, but do not lay. Is there any cause for their failure to produce eggs?"

REPLY:—They are probably overfed and made very fat, which is a condition unfavorable for hens that should lay.

Plymouth Rocks and Dominiques.—F. L., Evans, Mich., writes: "What is the difference between the Plymouth Rock and Dominique males?"

REPLY:—They are nearly alike in color of plumage, but the Dominique has a rose-comb and long sickle-feathers; the Plymouth Rock having a straight (or single) comb and short sickle-feathers; it is also larger than the Dominique.

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Our Fireside.

THE FAVORITE PAPER.

There's a little country paper that I love to sit and read,
A paper poorly printed and behind the times indeed;
With its pages small and narrow, and ink inclined to spread,
And here and there a letter gravely standing on its head.

Or caps, a big erratic, boldly popping into view
In unexpected places, and knocking things askew;
A real old-fashioned paper from my own native little town—
Each week I hail its coming, and I never put it down

Till I've read its every column, all the local news, you know,
About the dear old folks I lived with long ago.
I note whose barn is painted, whose cattle took the prize,
And how Uriah Potts has raised a squash of wondrous size.

How Farmer Martin's daughter takes the school another year—
At this I pause and smile a bit and feel a trifle queer,
Remembering how, in bygone days, when life seemed made for mirth,
I thought this schoolma'am's mother was the sweetest girl on earth.

And now and then perchance I read that one I knew is dead,
Or find again some boyhood chum the second time has wed;
And so it goes, and none can know what memories sad and sweet
Come back to me whenever I read this homely little sheet.

UNCLE TIP'S SUPPER

BY HATTIE WHITNEY.



OU won't fergit the roastin'-years, Uncle Tip?"
"Naw, honey."
"Ner the simlins?"
"Naw, chile."
"An' you'll dig a big mess o' sweet potatoes to bake?"
"Yas, yas, sugar."
"An' cook all the other truck jest like I tole you, an' hev ever'thing ready persey at six o'clock?"
"Yas, honey, yas."

Uncle Tip Tucket, who sat on a backless chair in the open passageway between two log rooms, looked a little bewildered and clutched at his scant locks as if to hold onto his memory ere it should give him the slip, as his niece rattled off her brisk catechism. He was a slow, amiable man, with mild, blinking eyes and wispy gray hair.

Izora Tucket, his niece, was all briskness, from her quick, black eyes to her long feet neatly laced into her well-polished best shoes. Her freshly done up pink lawn skirt set out around her, nyieldingly stiff and smooth with abundant starching and elaborate ironing, and rattled crisply when she moved; her white waist was like tin, every frill and fold sticking out with a sharp edge to it. Her light, thin hair was braided tightly and fastened very flatly against her head, and her best handkerchief was pinned smoothly around her neck.

"Izory, I cain't find ary clean hau'kerchief," drawled a plaintive voice from the room on the left of the passageway, and another girl appeared in the doorway, in a costume the counterpart of Izora's, excepting that the skirt was blue instead of pink. This second girl was younger than Izora, plumper, more deliberate of movement and softer of voice.

With a brisk movement Izora flashed past her into the room, like a pink and white streak, her skirts rustling starchily.

"Wisht you'd a-said so before," she commented briskly, unlocking a trunk and lifting the lid of a box inside. "We ain't got any time to lose. I'll loan you my buff-border one; an' don't you crumple it up an' tie knots in it like you done with yourn last Sunday."

The plump girl blushed, and sat down upon the edge of the bed with its blue and white counterpane and stiff, square pillows, and was promptly pounced upon by Izora.

"Git up!" said she. "You're a-mussin' the kiverlid, Susan."

"Izory," said Susan, as she moved over to the window, "don't you reckon Uncle Tip'd kinder like to go 'loug to the picnic, too?"

"Reckon so," responded Izora, who was giving her mind to the settling of her white straw hat, with its pink ribbons, straw loops, huge, bobbing red rose and chunky bud, on the exact top of her head, where she secured it by jabbing a long pin through it and a strand of her hair.

"An' I don't see," pursued Susan, speculatively, "whnt'd be the hurt?"

"Susan Tucket, air you a idit?" demanded Izora, wheeling about. "First place, who'd git supper? Ain't Gid Tompkins shore to be 'loug with me, an' more'n likely Sam Bean with you, an' wouldn't we hev to run scootin' 'round like hoppergrasses a-cookin' supper 'stid of takin' it easy? An' second place, ain't that long-nosed old maid Clementyne Plummins boun' to be there, an' ain't she got her yaller cat-eyes onto Uncle Tip, an' hed 'em there fer the last ten years? She'd of snapped

him up like a jaybird does a bug, forty times over, ef it hedn't 'a' been fer me upsettin' her plots an' keepin' him out'n her way. He's willin' enough to be snapped up, an' once git 'em at a picnic playin' 'Sister Pichee' an' 'Two Tinkers,' an' they'd be engaged inside of a hour, I'll insure you. I ain't kep' 'em apart this long to let 'em git together at a picnic at last."

"Well, I do'no," drawled Susan; "maybe they air that a-way. But what ef they was to? Clementyne ain't noways mean or fractious. Why, law! you kin 'most run over her ef you want to."

"That's all the further you kin see," returned Izora, scornfully; "not a cench beyond yer nose! Don't Clementyne an' her maw live alone, an' wouldn't her maw live whurever Clementyne did, an' wouldn't she be a-bossin' things lively 'round this house? An' do you an' me want a gre't big feather-bed of a step-aunt-in-law, er whutever she'd be, a-runnin' things here?"

"I do'no," began Susan again; "I—"

"I do," interrupted Izora, decisively. "You ain't got gumption enough to pound sand. Come along; yonder's the sun, 'way up. We'll be late."

The fall was a very hountiful one that year, and seemed to hold all the sweetness of summer in its mellow clasp. Down in this out-of-the-way corner of Missouri no sign of frost had yet appeared, and the sun was mild and clear.

Uncle Tip Tucket stood in the log "lean-to" kitchen, surrounded by the generous offerings, freshly gathered, of the rich, well-cultivated soil of his thrifty garden. Great round, cushiony, crimson tomatoes; long, pink-red sweet potatoes; plump ears of corn in their silken, green husks; creamy marrow squashes; translucent pods of wax-beans; broad pods full of butter-beans; crookneck squashes and cucumbers, were piled about him in hunger-provoking profusion. And still Uncle Tip stood, with dismay in his face, staring perplexedly at his vegetable treasures.

"Did she say to fry the roastin'-years an' bile the tomatoses, er did she say stehew the sweet 'taters an' make soup out'n the simlins, er whnt, beats me! An' she'll be madder'n a wet hen ef I git 'em wrong. What's that?"

A ponderous step came up onto the porch, and the Widow Plummins, otherwise known as Aunt Dorcas, appeared at the kitchen door, with a large, black sunbounnet on and a teacup containing baking-soda in her hand. The widow was stout and slow of motion, and she puffed some from the climb up the steps.

"I've fetched back the sody Izory loaned me," she announced, setting the cup down. "I was a-passin' an' 'lowed it'd save another trip. Whutever's the matter, Uncle Tip? You look sort o' looney."

"Hit's the supper," explained Tip, dismally. "The gals is gone to the picnic, an' their beaux is comin' back with 'em; be yere at six, an' Izory she's sot on hev'n' supper all ready when they come. The's light bread enough—we can make out with—an' I kin cook ham an' make coffee; but looky yere at all this yere garden-truck, an' we like a ole woodchuck fergettin' how she sayed fer to cook it. Don't know no more'n that ole Brammer rooster out yander how ter fix the tomatoses, ner beans, ner nothin'."

Uncle Tip groaned, while Aunt Dorcas untied her black sunbounnet, sat down and laughed until her portly form fairly quaked.

"Uncle Tip," said she, "I know whut Izory is, I know what you air, I know whut cookin' a meal o' vittles is, an' I b'leeve I know whnt my simple Chrishen juty to a good neighbor-man is. Now, you run an' split me up some good, dry kin'lin's, fill up the wood-box, fetch me a bucket of water, an' I'll hev ever'thing goin' before you kin bat your eyes twicet, an' mix a pan of sody biskit in the bargain."

The widow seized a gingham apron of Izora's, tied it about her ample waist, rolled up her black calico sleeves, and in a very moderate space of time had the big coffee-boiler steaming, the vegetables baking, stewing, frying or boiling, according to their various requirements, a huge skillet of ham sputtering on the stove and a painful of bouncing big biscuits all ready for the oven.

As for Uncle Tip, he was in an ecstasy of delight, skipping about to render what assistance he could, doing the widow's behests with gleeful alacrity, and commenting upon the proceedings with wonder and joy.

"Don't it beat you," he observed, gazing upon the clouds of steam from the various kettles and saucepans with fascinated eyes, "how slick things'll go when anybuddy takes a holt 'at knows how? Jest look at them tomatoses a-bubblin' up thick an' red, an' smell them roastin'-years, an' listen at the ham a-sizzlin'—an' them biscuits! Never seen sich big, nice, soft-lookin' hiskits—mind I tell ye."

"I'm allus used to makin' biskits that a-way," said the widow, "cause me an' Clementyne don't ary one much like crus'."

"Ner me, neither," said Uncle Tip.

"Now," said Mrs. Plummins at last, as she sat the coffee-pot down on the hearth, "hit's mighty near time fer the young folks to be polin' along home. I'll fix the gravy, an' then I reckon you kin dish up when they git yere, an' I'll be getting back."

Uncle Tip's air of pleased animation vanished, and he groaned more dismally than he had before the widow rescued him from his troubles.

"Aunt Dorcas," said he, "I wisht ye wouldn't

go 'fore supper—an' I wisht ye wouldn't go after supper—an' fur as that goes, I wisht ye wouldn't go at all, I do fer shore. Look a-here, Aunt Dorcas," the little man continued to rush on, as if, having given expression to his feelings, he was unable to control them, "I ain't never ast nobuddy to hev me sence pore Pamelly died; not but whut I've 'lowed sometimes 'at I'd kinder like to, 'n' I hev sort o' cast a eye at Clementyne oncet in awhile, but 'peared like es ef one thing another 'ud keep a-bappenin' to spile it. Ever'time I'd fix fer it somethin' 'ud up an' knock it in the head; I couldn't never git haif a chance to see her, an' looked like I never would. But after all, I reckon Clementyne's a leetle too young fer me. Now you an' me is purty closet of a age; 'pears to me like es ef we was plum suited to one another. I know there couldn't no one suit me so good a-makin' hiskits, an' no one wouldn't chop kin'lin's an' pack water fer you cheerfuller'n whut I would. S'posin' we's to jine han's fer good, me an' you—will ye, Dorcas?"

"Well," said Aunt Dorcas, with due deliberation, "'bein' es you're so handy at gittin' kin'lin' an' the like, an' we both take to the same kind of biskits, an' my cookin' seems to suit you so good, I mout think of it."

Uncle Tip hopped a foot high in his delight, and then caught the stout widow around the waist.

"Looky yere, Dorcas," said he, "don't go an' spile it by thinkin' about it. Let's light right out over to the minister's yander an' be all fixed time the gals gits back. Somethin''ll hender shore, ef we put it off, mind I tell you. Ain't I tole ye how I couldn't even git no courtin' done? An' things'll git crossways somehow, ef we wait a minute, I 'most know. Come, let's run right over."

"But Clementyne," demurred the widow. "She'll git home from the picnic an' he skeered to not find no one there."

"She'll hev to pass right by the parsonage on her way," said Uncle Tip, "an' ef we don't see her ourselves, we'll get 'em to watch fer her an' tell her to come right over 'fore she goes home. Come, now, sugar, clap on yore bonnet an' let's scoot right off; we'll fasten the kitchen door an' run an' git married an' be back in time to dish up together. Oh, honey, ef you don't I'll be so mizzable I'll jest natchelly bust up and go to pieces."

The widow was not proof against such eloquence as this.

Six o'clock came, and the girls, arriving punctually with their escorts, beheld Aunt Dorcas emerging from the kitchen with a great platter of fried ham surrounded by rich red-brown thickened gravy, while Uncle Tip came skipping after, beaming benignly, and bearing in each hand a plate heaped with the big biscuits. The table was spread in the open passageway, and from the center thereof arose a mountain of corn, boiled on the cob, the long ears even, white, succulent and extremely tempting. Alongside stood a large yellow bowl full of stewed tomatoes, thick, dark red and fragrant with seasoning of spices and tender green peppers. A huge glass dish hard by was piled brimful of sliced tomatoes, cucumbers and onions, with dressing of vinegar, salt and black pepper. Tureens of great fat butter-beans, puffed up with the buttery richness beneath their pale green coats, jostled and crowded dishes of well-seasoned cream-colored marrow squash. Plates of sugary, baked sweet potatoes, bowls of savory succotash, and sections of deep gold crooknecks, baked to glazy perfection and piled upon platters, filled every space. The dessert of late-ripened carmine velvet peaches and sweet netted cantaloups seemed almost a superfluity amidst the abundance of vegetable luxury.

Miss Clementyne Plummins was setting the chairs about the table with cheerful energy.

"Walk up, ladies and gentlemen," greeted Uncle Tip, jovially. "Lemme first interduce ye to my wife, Mrs. Tip Tucket, Widder Plummins that was, and my darter Clementyne; an' then all pitch in an' eat—eat hearty. An' ef this yere meal of vittles does come a leetle grain ahead of time, hit's a Thanks-givin' dinner an' supper all in one to this ole boy, fer I'm thankful to a good, kind Providence, plum from head to heel, firstly for a mighty good wife, an' secondly fer a mighty good supper. Now light in."

The young men stepped forward as Uncle Tip finished his little speech, shook hands all around with a hearty good-will, wished the newly married pair "much joy," and sat down to the table, according to the invitation.

Susan laid aside her hat, and with placidly smiling visage kissed her new aunt and uncle and embraced Clementyne with consinly cordiality, took a seat beside Mr. Bean, and helped herself to a large ear of corn. Susan was not given to violent amazement under any circumstances.

The host and hostess next seated themselves, and in the slight attending confusion, no one observed the movements of Izora, who popped into the left-hand room, pitched her hat upon the bed, and stood grinding her heel into the innocent rag carpet and punching a hole in the plastering of the wall with her parasol. Her eyes snapped.

"Talk of plum idiots!" she ground out viciously, "I'd take first prize at the biggest booby show ever was—a-plottin' like I done to keep him from goin' to the picnic an' meelin' Clementyne, an' yere he's stayed right home and married Clementyne's maw, slick es a whistle, a million times worse'n ef he'd a

married Clementyne herself—shucks take it! Why didn't I keep an eye out that a-way, 'stid of watchin' Clementyne so closet? Well, Izory Tucket, bein' you ain't got the sense of a good-sized June-bug, I reckon you better go out an' wish 'em much joy, an' eat your supper—an' mind yer own business from right now."

THE BELLS.

Bells were well known to the Egyptians before the time of the Jewish exodus. In the description of Aaron's sacerdotal robe mention is made of the fact that upon the hem of the garment there were bells of gold, alternating with pomegranates of blue, of purple and of scarlet. "A golden bell and a pomegranate upon the hem of the robe round about. And it shall be upon Aaron to minister, and his sound shall be heard when he goeth in unto the holy place before the Lord, and when he cometh out, that he die not."

Hand-bells were in common use all over the ancient world. The earliest use of bells in churches was for the purpose of frightening away the evil spirits which were believed to infest the earth and air, and the earliest curfew was rung at nightfall to rid the neighborhood of the village or town and church of demons.

Most old churches of Europe have a small door on the north side, and at certain points in the service this door was opened and a bell was rung to give notice to the devil, if he chanced to be present, that he might make his exit before the elevation. By the command of Pope John IX. church-bells were rung as a protection against thunder and lightning. The monument of Porsena, the Etrurian king, was decorated with pinnacles, each surmounted with a bell, which tinkled in the breeze. The army of Clothaire raised the siege of Sens on account of a panic occasioned among the men by a sudden chime from the bells of St. Stephen's church.

The largest bell in the world is in the Kremlin at Moscow. Its weight is 250 tons, and the value of the bell-metal alone, not counting the gold and silver ornaments which were thrown into the pots as votive offerings, is estimated at £64,565, or about \$332,825.

ANCIENT EXTRAVAGANCE.

The great display of jewels by women of fashion on both sides of the ocean has been severely criticised, even by those who could well afford to wear them if they desired to. But if the precedent of history furnishes any justification of this fashion, the jewel wearers of the present day are thoroughly justified. According to Pliny, Lollia Paulina, the wife of Caligula, wore on her head, arms, neck, hands and waist, pearls and emeralds to the value of one million six hundred and eighty thousand dollars. Faustina had a ring worth two hundred thousand dollars. Domitia had one worth three hundred thousand dollars, and Kæsonia had a bracelet worth four hundred thousand dollars. Seneca bewails that one pearl in each ear no longer suffices to adorn a woman; they must have three, the weight of which ought to be insupportable to them. There were women of ancient Rome whose sole occupation was the healing of the ears of the belles who had torn or otherwise injured the lohes with the weight of their pendants. Poppæa's ear-rings were worth seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and Cæsar's wife, Calpurnia, had a pair valued at twice that sum. Marie de Medici had a dress made for the ceremony of the baptism of her children which was trimmed with thirty-two thousand pearls and three thousand diamonds, and at the last moment she found it was so heavy she could not wear it, and had to get another.

But men led in the splendor of the middle ages, and Philip the Good, of Burgundy, often wore jewels valued at two hundred thousand dollars. When he walked along the streets the people climbed over each other to look at him. The Duke of Buckingham wore a suit at the Court of St. James which cost four hundred thousand dollars. The dress of the nobles during the middle ages was literally covered with gold and precious stones.—San Francisco Chronicle.

FILLING THE SILO.

Among those machines especially designed for filling silos and covering special points of superiority, may be named the Hero Eusilage Cutter made by the Appleton Mfg. Co., of Batavia, Ill. The Hero Cutter is equipped with the Universal Carrier, which is a strong feature and a most desirable combination. The Carrier is mounted on a swivel and is easily attached to the Cutter, and by a simple shift can be turned to the right or left at any desired degree or angle, thus making the right angle, left angle or straight away carrier. All of these changes can be made without stopping the Cutter or involving any loss of time, a fact that will be appreciated by all farmers. An extra advantage possessed by this Cutter is in distributing the product in all cases where the silos are filled from the top. This will save much hand labor, avoiding almost entirely the use of the fork in distributing the cut feed. This outfit is a most complete one for the purpose of cutting ensilage or dry fodder. If any of our readers are needing anything in this line, they will do well to correspond with this company before buying.

A WORD FOR THE FRYING-PAN.

The "Bookman" not long ago discussed with more or less seriousness the question of cooking. In the matter of literature one would scarcely wish to enter into a controversy with the able editor, but when the able editor makes the statement that the frying-pan is a curse to our civilization, and is responsible for more "ill health, uncharitableness, immorality, bigotry, financial heresy, anarchism and complicated devilry" than any other ten causes put together, including drinking, hesimply does not know how to cook, even if he is a good editor. The heresy of this statement is fully recognized, yet the frying-pan in the hands of intelligence is the instrument for good humor, deep affection, patriotism, loyalty, sound-money ideas, and a belief in the solidarity of the human race. If the editor of the "Bookman" knew the homes of more anarchists, he would probably realize that much of their dissatisfaction with the existing order of things is due to the fact that the coffee-pot is about the only cooking-utensil that their homes contain. If Mr. Editor will put a frying-pan on the fire and make it red-hot before he attempts to broil his chop, he will find that a little practice will enable him to broil his chop successfully, and preserve its juices, a thing which he cannot do with the broiler. It will come from the frying-pan, if the frying-pan has been properly treated, with a dainty brown in place of the black "kisses" that the crude iron so often impresses.

And we should like to suggest to that able editor that if he wants flap-jacks and griddle-cakes without the aid of grease, he ought to use a soapstone griddle. No intelligent housekeeper to-day attempts to have either of these toothsome dishes baked on anything but the perfect soapstone griddle; and if any discouraged housekeeper tells him that she has never yet secured a maid who would not wash that soapstone griddle, just let him tell her that she is not a good executive officer. Either she does not know how to choose her forces, or she does not know how to use them; any cook worth having would far rather stand in a kitchen entirely clear of smoke, making pancakes on a soapstone griddle, than in an atmosphere of reeking smoke such as she must endure if she uses a griddle and grease. If he raises the question how that soapstone griddle can be kept clean without washing, we may tell him that a clean, soft flannel cloth kept for the purpose will rub every particle of baked dough from the face of the griddle, and leave it smooth and shining.

It is a great mistake to believe that our New England mothers, with their love of home and their love of good food, at least for the "men folks," continued using year after year, and decade after decade, that which meant only death to the morals. The New England housewife who knew how to cook did not serve food reeking with grease from a frying-pan. Ah! how many of us can see now a dear, loving grandmother carefully pouring off the grease while frying foods—see her with her long-handled fork in her right hand ready to turn the meat over and over until it was seared on both sides; though she used the frying-pan, she brought the meat to the table a soft, even, clear brown, without a black spot. We pity the man or the woman who has not eaten a steak cooked in a red-hot frying-pan, by one who knew how to use it, with its entire juices making the gravy.

The penetration of this observing gentleman will show, when he discovers the relation between morals and food, that he made a wrong statement. If that same wise intellect can only carry this knowledge of the relation between food and morals into the heads of his hundreds of thousands of readers; if he can teach them that a frying-pan in the hands of an artist is an instrument for developing good citizens, we shall have better cooks at the upper end of society, who will be willing to struggle to secure a knowledge of cooking by the pupils in the public schools for the lower end of society and the great untrained middle classes, and the country will be redeemed.—The Outlook.

THE MENACE OF TREELESSNESS.

The lumber trade is a legitimate and important industry, and one that should be so cherished as to insure its profitable permanency. But it is now growing at a rate which threatens in the near future its own self-exhaustion and the reduction of this country to the deplorable and ruinous state of treelessness. The facts cannot be concealed and should not be ignored. Throughout all the older states of the Union forests have long since practically disappeared. The effect is apparent. Streams that once flowed constantly the year round are now overflowing torrents for a few weeks and dry for months. Springs have dried up. Soil has become arid and sterile. Droughts are more frequent. Agriculture is less profitable. The evils that afflict the treeless countries of the Old World are beginning to be felt. Nor are the newer states of the far West exempt. Their abundant forests are disappearing like snow in springtime, and in their places are coming changes of climate, disturbances of the water supply and the whole train of evils that forest destruction inevitably entails. It is idle to point to the vast expanses of untouched woodland that still remain, and boast that they are inexhaustible. They are not inexhaustible.

This year, as already stated, our exports of lumber are about twenty-five per cent greater than last year, and one hundred per cent greater than ten years ago. Even at the present rate of cutting the forests would not last long. But at such an increasing rate their disappearance is startlingly close at hand. Nor is that all. The figures cited are only those of exports. Domestic consumption is increasing still more rapidly. The single item of wood-pulp for paper manufacture means an enormous destruction of timber never dreamed of a generation ago.

The lumber industry cannot, of course, be abolished. But it is high time such regulations were adopted and rigidly enforced as will prevent the utter destruction of forests. That is entirely possible. Not the mere amount of lumber cut, but the amount destroyed, wasted by careless and injudicious methods, is what most counts. Every one who has visited a great lumber camp knows that more material is destroyed than is sent to market. The smaller trees, not large enough for marketable timber, are regarded as mere encumbrances, to be slashed and burned and got out of the way in whatever fashion may be readiest. The ground is thus entirely cleared. The great beds of moss and leaf-mold, hitherto perennial reservoirs of moisture, are dried up. The soil and rocks are exposed, and the country transformed into a desert. What should be done is evident. The small trees should be carefully preserved, so that they may in turn grow to full size, and meantime shade the ground and preserve the forest conditions. Lumbering should, in brief, mean a judicious thinning out, not a wholesale destruction, of the forest. Tree-planting should also be practised on an extensive scale, forest fires be more scrupulously guarded against, and the woodland area of the country be systematically cultivated, instead of ruthlessly raided. Other nations neglected the lesson long, but have learned it at last, and now enforce it with a strictness that here might seem despotic. But this nation is bound to come, sooner or later, to some such system of forest conservation, and it will be fortunate if it does not reach it through the ruinous experience of treelessness.—New York Tribune.

CARE OFFSETS WEAR.

It is not half as hard to care for one's clothes as it is to get them in the first instance. Yet, strangely enough, those who have the fewest garments take least pains to preserve their freshness.

Rich women having French maids have their gowns and bonnets looked after with a jealous skill that women who used such service scarcely dream of.

It is not wear that makes a drabbed mass of your best gown in a couple of months. It is lack of care when it is off your back. If you fold it up or hang it, ten to one you do it badly.

Hang all your dress waists and skirts, but suspend them on "coat-hangers," not on hooks or nails. The way shopkeepers care for ready-made garments is an excellent object-lesson.

A large supply of coat-hangers can be purchased for a dollar, or if you are out of reach of the ready-made article, manufacture them. Half a barrel-hoop, with a loop of string in the middle, makes a satisfactory substitute. Hanging only serves for heavy fabrics, not when they are of thin goods. In that case garments are apt to become stringy. Light materials must be folded, sleeves and bows stuffed out with tissue-paper, and all given plenty of room.

Skirt-hags are a luxury, even a necessity for handsome garments. They are great, square sacks of white cotton, longer than the skirts, and into which the skirt can be slipped without crushing. A sachet suspended in the center imparts to the skirt a fragrance which makes it as sweet and fresh as a flower.

Skirts should not only be brushed when taken off, but the silk lining ought to be well wiped with a dry cloth. This should be done at once, and the skirt then put away properly. It is tumbling about on chairs, waiting to be disposed of, that ruins quantities of clothes.

A few pairs of boot-trees are invaluable; the cost of them is more than compensated for in an actual saving of money. They not only preserve the shape, but they crack and break far less. It is a measure of economy to keep several pairs of shoes in use. When worn steadily they do not have time to dry out thoroughly while off the feet, and the constant dampness rots them. Water should never be put on shoes, and any soil should be removed with oil. Slippers can be kept stuffed with paper.

Gloves must be pulled into shape as soon as they are taken off, and not put away until they are dried. They should always be removed from the hand by turning them wrong side out from the wrist up, not by tugging at the fingers. In the shops they always turn them, as the other method ruins the shape and is likely to tear the kid.

The best way to preserve the crispness of veils is by rolling them up in long, narrow sachets made for the purpose. The tulle is straightened out, folded, laid on the sachet and rolled up with it, and the whole tied with a ribbon fastened to the outside of the veil-case.

All closets and clothes-presses need frequent sunnings and airings. Clothing, too, should be exposed now and again, just as you would

sun your bedding. That is one of the most sweetening measures in the world. Dress-waist linings can be kept wonderfully nice if in addition you occasionally wipe them off with a cloth dampened with very weak ammonia-water. Of course, the shields should be frequently changed.

VISITOR AND HOSTESS.

The relations between a visitor and her hostess never require to be more carefully considered than when the visit is made in town. In the country the visitor has very little opportunity of taking her own line; on the contrary, she has to follow the routine arranged by her hostess. It is different in town, where the rule is for the host and hostess to accept invitations for themselves whether a visitor be staying with them at the time or not, although the hostess generally informs the intended visitor beforehand of her dinner engagements, to give her the opportunity of making engagements for herself on the evenings in question; for when a host and hostess dine out their visitor is expected to do the same at the house of a relative or friend. As regards evening parties and dances, it depends upon whether the visitor is a young and pretty girl or a lady of middle age, as to asking permission to take her or not. In the generality of cases a hostess prefers not to ask this favor, and to allow the visitor to amuse herself.

To an ordinary afternoon at home a visitor is taken as a matter of course, but to no other entertainment, and a visitor is most unreasonable when, as too often follows, she shows evident displeasure at not being included in the long-standing engagements of her hostess, or that they are not given up on her account. As the obligation is incurred by the visitor, she should respect her hostess' plans and fall in with them, and consult her as to all engagements she desires to make independent of her. Otherwise a hostess feels that she is put into the position of a landlady, and that her town house is little better than a hotel to the visitor who makes use of it. Shopping and visiting are great temptations to most visitors in town, but the convenience of a hostess should never be sacrificed to such allurements, and a visitor should endeavor to hit the happy medium and not give her hostess too little or too much of her society.

A QUESTION OF HOME ATMOSPHERE.

Said a mother one day, very wearily: "I am worn out with responsibility. Everything I do may be the wrong thing for my children; everything I fail to do may hurt them and hinder their development. I have very little comfort with my children, yet I love them to distraction."

"Yes," answered a wise old woman, who had placidly played the part of listener to this monologue—"yes, dear, I've noticed that you have a hard time of it; and certainly the children, poor things, have not an easy one. Children never have an easy time when their parents regard them as chiefly clay to be molded, as instruments to be played upon. The fortunate children are those who are brought up with a large admixture of wholesome neglect."

"But, dear lady," said the mother, "am I to pass over Harry's quarrels with Ned, and Ned's tale-telling, and Leila's gust of rage, and her sister's tendency to be late and lazy, as though the four children were admirable in conduct?"

"If," said the other, "you could only realize that home training is largely a question of absorption, of imitation, of unconscious assimilation, you would have fewer moments of sorrowful uncertainty. Your own general temper, your face, your tones, the pretty gowns you wear, the gay little songs you sing, and the stories you tell at twilight, the tender brooding that is never absent from your loving heart and from your manner, these are the things which educate your children. They resist positive orders, and are sometimes rebellious in their hearts when commands are given brusquely, and enforced with sternness, but no child resists the sunshine. Praise is worth more than blame in bringing up our little ones, and reward outweighs penalty."—Harper's Bazar.

THE SALT HABIT.

The use of salt as a condiment is so general and so universally believed in as necessary that we rarely hear a word against its excessive use, but there are a multitude of persons who eat far too much salt; eat it on everything—on meat, fish, potatoes, melons, in butter, on tomatoes, turnips and squash, in bread and on a host of foods too numerous to mention. To so great an extent is it used that no food is relished which has not a salty taste, and this hides more or less the real taste, which is often very delicate.

Now, the amount of salt required in the system is comparatively small, and if the diet has been rightly compounded very little is necessary. Some go so far as to discard its use altogether, but whether this is wise or not we will not here consider. What are some of the evils of the excessive use of salt? They are to paralyze the nerves of taste, or to pervert them so they cannot enjoy anything which has not a salty flavor, and in addition there is a direct

tax on both the skin and the kidneys in removing it from the blood. Whether the skin is harmed by this tax we do not know. Possibly it is not greatly injured, yet we know that few people possess a healthy skin; but it is now pretty well settled that an excessive use of salt does overtax the kidneys in its removal, and that the great number of cases of derangement and disease of these organs is due to this use. It takes only a little time to learn to enjoy many kinds of food without salt, and we advise our readers and others to look into this matter and to try to diminish the use of this condiment so far as possible. We believe they will be better for it.—Journal of Hygiene.

THE PEANUT CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

In dealing with consumption two things are needful; to keep up the heat and vitality, and also to kill out the tuberculous germs. One means used to keep up the heat is cod-liver oil—which we do not think very much of, as we much prefer sweet cream, fresh butter and the oil of various nuts.

The "Journal of Hygiene" states that Dr. Brewer has a new idea concerning food for consumptives. His treatment consists of the inhaling the fumes of vinegar and the eating of peanuts. He gives his patients as many peanuts as they can eat without injuring their digestive organs. Two young ladies, who had been the rounds of the doctors and taken cod-liver oil and tonics till they were nearly dead, were put on his treatment and recovered. Concerning these cases Dr. Brewer says: "I now commenced feeding peanuts. One would think this a very indigestible diet, but they craved them, and it has always been my policy to find out what my patients desire to eat, and unless it is too unreasonable I humor them. Both young ladies have become quite plump, and after a year's inhalation have ceased coughing, and I pronounced them well. The peanut was long known as an excellent fat-producer, and much more agreeable than rancid shark-oil that oftentimes is sold for cod-liver oil. While not all can digest peanuts, a great many, even with feeble digestion, eat them without discomfort. It heats the Koch lymph, and is the most satisfactory treatment I have ever tried for these diseases."

We are of opinion that freshly baked peanuts are worth trying—they are cheaper than cod-liver oil, and much pleasanter to take. They are also recommended as a remedy for sleeplessness.

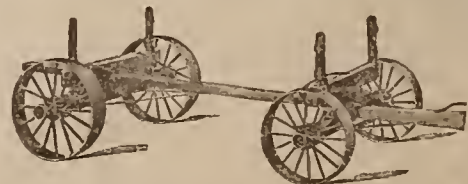
LETTER-WRITING.

Begin your letter to a woman friend without any prefix of endearment at all, says the Royal Letter-Writer by Appointment to her Majesty, Mrs. Grundy. For, with logical severity reasons this not-to-be-contradicted authority, it is henceforth to be considered both vulgar and impertinent to call a mere friend and acquaintance your "dear." The letter-writer directs his pupils to begin their notes or epistles with easy, friendly sentences, and conclude with the words, esteem, respect, or a new cut-and-dried phrase, "In hopes of an early meeting, I am yours, etc." or, "In pleasant anticipation of seeing you soon, I am yours, etc."

It is distressingly inelegant to write, pursues Mrs. Grundy's master of the pen, any letter over four pages long; that is, just one full sheet of letter-paper. Leave a half-inch wide margin to the left of every page, and by writing an aristocratic hand, of medium size, all there is necessary to communicate by post can be said in the fixed space. The model letter-writers in the politest periods of society never required greater space in which to make their cleverest mots or convey most interesting news. For this reason the new letter-paper is nearly a foot square; and, oddly enough, the authority quoted recommends men to study George Washington's penmanship as the most elegant, graceful and manly model. An aristocratic hand, he it impressed upon those who follow the laws issued from Mrs. Grundy's throne, is one which for women shows no crossed t's or dotted i's, and is written in clear purple ink. Black ink is meant for trade and legal documents only.

A FARM WAGON FOR ONLY \$19.95.

In order to introduce their Low Metal Wheels with Wide Tires, the Empire Mfg. Co., Quincy, Ill., have placed upon the market a Farmers' Handy Wagon sold at the low price of \$19.95. The bed of wagon is only 25 inches high, fitted with 24 and 30-inch wheels with 4-inch tires,



either straight or staggered spokes. This wagon is made of best material throughout and fully guaranteed for one year. Catalogue giving full description of same will be mailed upon application by the Empire Mfg. Co., Quincy, Ill., who also will furnish Metal Wheels at low prices, made any size and width of tire to fit any axle.

THE SANDMAN'S COMING.

As soon as the yellow sun is down
And the bolts are fast on the door,
With his sack of sand he rides into town—
With his sack of sand before.

He fills a hand with the shining thing,
And over the dusky ground,
As a sower scatters the seed in spring,
He scatters the grains around.

Past he rides to the wharf and the ships,
Past to the foot of the hill;
Ever a finger is on his lips,
And his horse's hoofs are still.

He gallops up through the old York lanes,
And down through Rosemary street;
Like seed he scatters the glistening grains,
And they leap up tall and sweet.

Tall and sweet in swaying rows,
Straight into bloom they leap;
Behind him, behind him, wherever he goes—
The violet blossoms of sleep.
—Lizette W. Reese, in the Independent.

ABOUT SEALSKINS.

It is often wondered why the price of seal-skin goods should remain so high, when the arctic abounds with the animals from which the fur is taken, and the limit allowed by the existing laws, as they are construed by seal-catchers, is comparatively boundless. The statement of the great cost of coloring and preparing the fur is not credited by many, and it does look rather strange that this should be the case. L. Gerstle, president of the Alaska Commercial Company, dropped a hint or two to a "Chronicle" reporter recently on this subject. In speaking of the total catch for the season, which Mr. Gerstle says has been incorrectly reported, it was remarked that the market at the opening of the season of 18— showed such an overstocked condition that it was thought necessary, in order to work off the remaining furs, as well as future catches, to take some steps to keep the demand and supply steady, and make the transactions profitable to the company.

"But," asks the reporter, "if the supply is so great as it is reported, why could not the trade be conducted on a cheaper and more extensive basis?"

The round, hearty countenance of the seal merchant was lighted up by a broad smile, and with a significant look in his eye he said:

"The idea is to have the popularity of the sealskin retained by the fashionable world."

"And you intend to do this by keeping up values?"

"Exactly; that is the only way, and it is in accordance with strict commercial principles. That is not all, however. If the sealskin should become cheap and common, other furs which are harder to procure would then be in demand."

"How is the market regulated?"

"Well," said the president, "you know that we have a very extensive trade abroad, and, in fact, London and Paris are the chief centers of the fur trade. In March of each year a meeting of furriers or their delegates is held in London, and to these we make our report, that they may know the outlook for trade from this source for the subsequent season. We gave them notice of our intention to reduce the supply of skins for the season of 18—, and have followed out that plan to the letter. Here is a copy of the report."

On examination it was found that the catch for the season was 40,000 skins less than last year's. The total number captured, or agreed to be captured, was 100,000. Of these 25,000 were Copper Island and 75,000 Alaska fur.

"Will the reduction of the annual catch be permanent?" was asked.

"I cannot say as to that," replied Mr. Gerstle. "Prior to this season the tone of the market had not been very healthy, prices settling from sale to sale, and no other remedy being afforded us, the present step was resolved on." —San Francisco Chronicle.

HOW MINERAL WATERS CURE.

When a patient reaches a mineral water health resort he is examined by the resident physician and ordered to drink certain quantities of the water at certain times during the day; this is increased from day to day until the maximum quantity is reached. He is ordered to drink one or two glassfuls upon rising, two or three glassfuls between breakfast and dinner, the same quantity in the afternoon, and a couple of glassfuls before going to bed. The patient is urged to take it whether he wants it or not. He may say that he is not thirsty, but that makes no difference; he must take it as a medicine. The quantity is increased until we have known thirty glassfuls per day to be taken.

A part of the benefit derived is because of the rest and change of scene; a part, perhaps, is from the small quantity of the salts and other bases contained in these waters (we are not speaking of cathartic or chalybeate waters), but the benefit from this source is very slight. The secret of the cure is in the quantity of water taken. If the water be pure, free from organic matter, and taken in sufficient quantity, the results will be substantially the same, regardless of the "traces" of lithia and small quantities of sodium chloride and other salts. You can perform these cures at home with the ordinary drinking-water, if of good quality, if you will require the patient to take it in the same quantity as at the springs. It is very easy to add lithia if desired; but you must not lose sight of the fact that the quantity of water (not lithia) taken

is the important thing. It acts by flooding the kidneys; by washing out the bladder with a copious, bland and dilute urine; by unclogging the liver and clearing the brain. The patient feels better from day to day; he is better. Irritable bladder is relieved, the kidneys act freely—are "washed out"—and many effete substances are carried out with the blood; this clears the way for the liver to act freely and normally, for there is an intimate relation between the liver and kidneys.—Medical World.

THE YOUNG SCHOLAR.

I should think myself a criminal if I said anything to chill the enthusiasm of the young scholar, or to dash with any skepticism his longing and his hope. He has chosen the highest. His beautiful faith and his aspiration are the light of life. Without his fresh enthusiasm, and his gallant devotion to learning, to art, to culture, the world would be dreary enough.

Through him comes the ever-springing inspiration of affairs. Baffled at every turn, and driven defeated from a hundred fields, he carries victory in himself. He belongs to a great and immortal army. Let him not be discouraged at his apparent little influence, even though every sally of every young life may seem like a forlorn hope. No man can see the whole of the battle. It must needs be that regiment after regiment, trained, accomplished, gay and high with hope, shall be sent into the field, marching on, into the smoke, into the fire, and be swept away. The battle swallows them, one after the other, and the foe is yet unyielding, and the ever-remorseless trumpet calls for more and more. But not in vain; for some day, along the line, there is a cry: "They fly, they fly!" And the whole army advances, and the flag is planted on an ancient fortress, where it never waved before. And even if you never see this, better than in glorious camp-following is it to go in with the wasting regiment, to carry the colors up the slope of the enemy's works, though the next moment you fall and find a grave at the foot of the glacis.—Charles Dudley Warner.

THE ROUND COTTON BALE.

Probably more people go to the exposition to see the round-bale cotton-press than any other single object on the grounds of the Tennessee Centennial Exposition. Said a prominent hotel clerk: "Visitors come in here every day, and a large number of them always inquire about the cylindrical press. Its fame has spread all over the country, and the people are anxious to see the wonderful machine in operation." Those who have visited the exhibit in machinery hall have gone away highly pleased with its work, and tell their friends about the wonders that it accomplishes. The round-bale system is far ahead of the old way of compressing cotton. The bales are small, compact, neat and easily handled. During the process of baling the fiber of the cotton remains in its original shape, and when the bales reach the mills they are in splendid condition. They are not ragged nor torn; the cotton is not dirty. It is the wonder of all cotton men, and they say it is the cotton-press of the future.

THE OLDEST PLOW-MAKER.

Chicago has the oldest plow-maker in the United States. His name is David Bradley, and he is at the head of a big manufacturing company on the west side. Mr. Bradley first worked at the business in Syracuse, N. Y., in 1832. In 1835 he came to Chicago, which then numbered about 2,500 inhabitants and a camp of several thousand Indians, to help erect the first iron-foundry established here. Mr. Bradley was the first man to bring pig-iron into Chicago. In connection with the foundry which he helped build was a machine-shop, and the establishment soon began along with its other business the manufacture of plows. Mr. Bradley, by the growth of his business, was finally forced to build a little town of his own, which is known as Bradley, Ill. Mr. Bradley has passed his eighty-fifth birthday, but is still hale and hearty, and thoroughly enjoys the prosperity which hard work has brought him. The active business has been surrendered to his sons.—Chicago Tribune.

IRRIGATION IN AFRICA.

When the river Nile is high enough, at the time of its annual overflow, dams in its banks are cut, allowing the water to flow in canals which carry it into the country. From these canals ditches and gutters distribute it among the farms, which are divided into squares by ridges of earth a few inches high. The peasant regulates the flow of water with his feet. By a skilful use of his toes he makes an opening in a ridge or closes it up, and thus causes the water to go where it is needed.

This was a very ancient way of irrigating the land, and Moses probably refers to it when he contrasts the rains and dews of Palestine with the artificial watering of Egypt. "For the land where thou goest in to possess it is not as the land of Egypt from which ye came out, where thou sowest thy seed and wateredst it with thy foot, as a garden of herbs; but the land whither ye go to possess it is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven." Deut. 11:10-12.—Mission Band Lessons.

SHATTERED.

The Precarious Condition of Prof. A. H. Nye.

A Prominent Iowa Educator's Painful Experience as Related by Him to a Newspaper Man.

From the Gazette, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

The la grippe, that dread disease that had such a run throughout this country three and four years since, left many who were previously in robust health with shattered constitutions and seemingly confirmed invalids.

Prof. A. H. Nye, living at No. 2500 Olive Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa, was among the number left by the disease in a precarious condition, his nervous system shattered, and with a general debility of his entire system; no strength, feet and limbs badly swollen, in fact, he was almost helpless. Prof. Nye is a native of New York State, having come west in 1886—a healthy, robust man. He is a school teacher by profession, having served as county superintendent of schools of this (Black Hawk) county, several terms, and he has the respect of all with whom he comes in contact. His helpless condition called forth the sympathy of the entire community. He tried the best medical skill procurable, and spent most of his ready means in the vain endeavor to recover his health, and had about given up completely discouraged. He had stopped taking treatment, being fully convinced in his own mind that there was no help for him, and that he would have to spend the balance of his days as an invalid, a burden to family and friends. Some one who had heard of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills spoke to him about them and urged his giving them a trial. His poor success with eminent physicians made him skeptical and he had no faith in what was called proprietary medicine, and would not listen to this advice for some days. The friend being persistent, however, and having faith in

the Pink Pills, would not let up, until he had finally prevailed upon the sufferer to send for a box, which he reluctantly did, and after receiving them decided to give them a fair trial. The first box relieved him in a surprising manner; yet he was not convinced that it was the medicine that helped him, but the weather which had turned pleasant, and did not send for a further supply until he was again about as bad as before taking the pills. Then he concluded he would make another trial, and took three boxes, and to-day is nearly if not quite as well as before the attack of la grippe. It is needless to state he cannot say too much for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, for people who have been left in poor health from la grippe or any other cause. Any one wishing to test the validity of this letter can write Mr. Nye, No. 2500 Olive Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa, and he will cheerfully recommend the medicine, and state his condition before and after using.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effect of la grippe, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexions, all forms of weakness either in male or female. Pink Pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post-paid on receipt of price, 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 (they are never sold in bulk or by the 100), by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

Don't Stop Tobacco

SUDDENLY and rack the nerves. Use the tobacco you require and take Baco-Curo, it is the Original Guarantee Remedy (money refunded if it fails to cure). BACO-CURO notifies you when to stop by removing the desire. It leaves the system free from every trace of nicotine.

Write for proofs of cures. 50c. or \$1 boxes, 3 boxes (guaranteed cure) \$2.50.

Baco Curo

At Druggists, Or
Eureka Chemical and Manufacturing Co., La Crosse, Wis.

High Grade Sewing Machine for \$5.00.

DEAR EDITOR:—Please tell your readers that we will furnish our high-grade Iowa sewing machine for \$5.00 to anyone who will assist us in distributing our big 928-page, 3-pound catalogue. We sell sewing machines outright from \$8.50 up, guarantee them 10 years and allow 30 days' trial free. For full particulars cut this notice out and send to SEARS, ROEBUCK & Co., (Inc.) Chicago, Ill.

TRY IT FREE

for 30 days in your own home and save \$10 to \$25. No money in advance.

\$60 Kenwood Machine for \$23.00
\$50 Arlington Machine for \$19.50
Singers (Made by us) \$8, \$11.50, \$15 and 27 other styles. All attachments FREE. We pay freight. Buy from factory. Save agents large profits. Over 100,000 in use. Catalogue and testimonials free. Write at once. Address (in full), CASH BUYERS' UNION, 158-164 West Van Buren St., B-7, Chicago, Ill.

IS BABY ABOUT TO WALK?

If so, procure a pair of Ankle Supporters to assist it, and prevent deformities of legs and ankles. Equally good for Adults. CIRCULARS FREE.
H. GOLDEN, South Norwalk, Conn.

WANT MONEY?

Easy to make selling BEVERIDGE'S Automatic Cooker. Practical and satisfactory. No scorching, no odor. Saves labor and fuel and fits any stove. Good pay to agents of either sex. 2385 sold in one town. Write (P. O. 725), BEVERIDGE MFG. CO., Baltimore, Md.

PRINTING OUTFIT 10c.

Set any name in one minute; prints 500 cards an hour. You can make money with it. A font of pretty type, also Indelible Ink, Type Holder, Pads and Tweakens. Best Linen Marker; worth \$1.00. Mailed for 10c, stamps for postage on outfit and catalogue of 1000 bargains. Same outfit with figures 15c. Outfit for printing two lines 25c. postpaid.

Ingersoll & Bro., Dept. No. 16 65 Cortlandt St., New York.

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can have a **GOLD MINE** of their own by sell our goods. All agents are making a great success wherever they are at work. Read this testimonial. Those who take an agency and represent us will do as well.

\$37.00 in Two Hours.

LOS CERRILLOS, N. M., July 15, 1897.
THE STANDARD SILVERWARE CO., Boston, Mass.

GENTLEMEN:—I received your Agents Sample Outfit Tuesday last, and yesterday received your Catalogue, and in about two hours time took orders for thirty-seven dollars worth of goods. Have not done much work on account of sickness, but will have a good order for you by next Saturday. I am highly pleased with the sample outfit and the catalogue. Wishing you much success and assuring you of my best efforts, I remain
Yours very respectfully,
MRS. MELINDA HESSER.

BEGINNERS make about as much money as the most experienced agents at this business, for our goods do not have to be forced upon the people, for when Catalogue and samples are once shown them a sale is readily made. This is a **grand chance** for you, and we guarantee you the most pleasant, most reliable and best paying business you ever engaged in. In fact, you are sure of making from **\$3.00 to \$5.00 per day** as the sun is to rise.

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LADIES to sell our Medicated Soap and Premiums. No capital required. Write for particulars. THE SHERMAN CO., Jersey City, N. J.

FREE Catalogues of good sellers at big profits. Agents' supplies and rubber goods by mail. Mrs. M. O. CARPENTER, 134 L. Van Buren St., Chicago.

\$8 PER 100 paid for your neighbors names and addresses. Send 10c. for book and instructions. Agents Supply Co., 134 L. Van Buren St., Chicago, Ill.

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WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home. Law College, Lima, O.

Our agents who are engaged in taking orders for "Peerless Atlas of the World" and "New American Cook Book" in combination with Farm and Fireside (or Woman's Home Companion) continually report good success. "Small prices make large trade" is the secret of success in the agency business. Join with them good commissions, and you have best profits. Write the publishers of this paper for agency rates and special advantages.

Our Household.

SO LITTLE.

So little makes us glad, so glad—
One whispered word in fondness clad,
But simple look we understand,
Warm sympathetic clasp of hand.

A proffered help in time of need,
Unto our woe a gentle heed,
Dear promise kept despite the wear
Of months and years deep-fraught with care.

The bit of praise, or compliment,
A flower in sweet remembrance sent;
The letter we did not expect,
Some tender token of respect.

So little makes us sad, so sad—
The shattering of a dream we had;
A favor asked forgotten quite,
Meant or unmeant the trivial slight.

The censure and the stinging chide
When we our very best have tried;
The wrong construction harshly placed
On acts love, only love, had traced.

Why, why, oh, friends, do we withhold
The best of life? Why, why so cold?
So little makes us glad, so glad;
So little makes us sad, so sad.

—Kathleen Kavanagh.

HOME TOPICS.

COOKING CHICKENS.—The season for broiled and fried chickens is past, unless one happens to have a late brood which will make broilers. One of the nicest ways of cooking a chicken is the following, which I learned from an old Virginia manumy: Dress and joint the chicken, and put it into a baking-pan, sprinkling over it a teaspoonful of salt, one of pepper and a tablespoonful of butter cut into bits. Pour in enough rich, sweet milk to cover the chicken, set it in a hot oven and let it bake until the chicken is tender—about an hour, probably. When the milk has cooked away the chicken will be done, and if you do not say it is one of the most delicious ways that a chicken was ever cooked, I shall be disappointed.

If you still wish to fry chickens after they are quite well grown, proceed just as you would with common fried chicken, only fry them half an hour before they are wanted for the table. When the pieces are nicely browned, pour in a cupful of hot water, cover tightly and set the frying-pan on the back of the stove, where the chicken will simmer slowly until ready to serve. This way is preferable to parboiling before frying.

AN OCTOBER LUNCHEON.—I know some people affirm that the item of beauty has nothing to do with the enjoyment of our meals, but many of us know that it is an important factor with us. Through the hot days of summer we have confined our entertaining to little informal gatherings on the veranda or under the trees in the cool twilight, when nothing more substantial need be served to our guests than ices, sherbets, wafers, etc.; but now, when the cool, bracing air of autumn has come, and "red-hooded October sits dreaming," what can be a prettier form of entertainment than a luncheon where the prevailing colors shall be the tints of autumn leaves and flowers? If you decide on a yellow luncheon, there is the goldenrod with its feathery plumes, which, with ferns, mosses and yellow autumn leaves, will decorate

a broad ribbon of that color, laid flat the length of the table through the middle, is pretty. I don't like artificial lights for a luncheon.

Use pure white china with gold bands, if you have it, or if only the white, there are some pretty yellow dishes in the way of pitchers, etc., which will give the necessary touch of color. Broiled quails or delicate lamb chops, deviled eggs or creamed eggs, browned sweet potatoes, both white and brown bread, delicate amber fruit jellies or gelatin, gold and silver cake, orange sherbet, golden ripe pears, bananas, grapes and cocoa will make a suitable menu.

If a red luncheon is preferred, use red leaves and berries, asparagus or bitter-sweet, and red ribbons instead of the yellow. A tomato bisque may be served first, then fried chicken, cold sliced ham or tongue, the plates garnished with orange-red nasturtium blossoms and leaves, lyonnaise potatoes with little pieces of red peppers scattered over the top; cabbage salad served in tomatoes hollowed out, and each set on a crisp lettuce-leaf, or beet salad on lettuce-leaves; red jellies, candied

puff-box will do for the caddy, and any decorated bowl for slops. By all means have a cozy, and do have a pretty one. Those that have embroidered covers of white linen, that can be removed and washed, are the most desirable.

Now comes the serving, which it is a good plan to practise in private for a few times. In the first place, have your equipment artistically arranged upon the table, and remember that daintiness is the keynote to a successfully served tea-table. If your table is small, have but three or four cups on the top at once, having the others upon the shelf, ready as they are required. Have the lamp under your kettle well filled with alcohol, and a fancy cut-glass bottle of the same near at hand. It is advisable to have your kettle filled with boiling water from the kitchen kettle, as it takes some time to heat it over the alcohol-lamp.

If you are not going to use a tea-ball, allow two teaspoonfuls of tea to a pint of water; put it in the pot, turn on the boiling water, cover with the cozy, and let it steep for five minutes. If a tea-ball is to be

who sits behind you in church or through a lecture. I think my fingers never were so hard to keep off anything as once when I sat behind a young lady who was gotten up regardless of expense and latest style, and was conscious of the fact; but she had tied her back hair with a shoe-string, and from one side dangled the shiny tinned end. It spoiled her whole toilet, for that one thing was indicative of carelessness. Another thing that so many women fail in is to make good connection between the silk waist and skirt. Often it is pinned with a large safety-pin, which intrudes itself to every gaze.

We give three beautiful neck-trimmings which can always be readily and easily attached by a collar-button. We are going back to the days when girls had boxes full of little adornments ready to put on at a moment's notice.

L. L. C.

CARVED STOOL.

When I consider the superiority of wood-carving over every other branch of decorative art, I wonder why it is not more popular. The conviction forces itself upon me that people are lazy. It cannot be denied that carved wood requires a definite amount of hard work, and while the arts of the brush and the needle admit of certain effects easily produced, when the chisel is used it must tell an honest tale of time and labor. The simplest branch of wood-carving is called chip-carving. It is entirely composed of lines and angles; it requires but one tool—the chisel—and yet its beauty is such that an object thus embellished is a worthy heirloom. No occupation could be better for boys as something less frivolous than study and more dignified than play. I urge all parents to give their sons a set of tools, a lesson or two from a competent person, and thus, in a most satisfactory way, train the hands. An illustration of a stool is given. The diameter of the top is thirteen inches. The square in the design is five inches. With these hints a quick-witted person can place the pattern on the wood. To get the design accurately drawn is half the work. A bit of genuine enthusiasm will arouse ingenuity.

K. K.

THE DELICIOUS PEACH—HOW TO SERVE IT.

Take as many sound, smooth, yellow freestone peaches as you may need—two or three for each guest whom you expect to serve—place them in a vessel and pour boiling water upon them until they are well covered; let them remain in this hot water, three quarters of a minute, or a minute; pour it off and cover them with cold water, to which add a lump of ice about the size of a coconut. After ten or fifteen minutes lift them out of the cold water, one by one, and remove the skin by starting it with a knife and pulling it gently with the fingers; the skin will come off easily. When the skins are removed, put the peaches into a large earthen dish, being careful to pile them on top of one another as little as possible, then place the dish in the refrigerator. Ten minutes before serving them lift them carefully one at a time into a large cut-glass dish—a salad-bowl will answer the purpose very well—and cover them with finely chopped ice. Serve them to your guests in flat dishes; for each person there should be a fork and a small fruit-knife with which to remove the pits easily. The fruit served in this way, and with fine sugar and a cut-glass pitcher filled



cherries in gelatin, quince preserves, red and white marble-cake, grape-juice in tiny wine-glasses, red and white grapes, red apples, watermelon (the red core only), or any red fruit, with just enough green or yellow to set off the red.

From these I am sure very pretty luncheon-tables may be set, and of course others will be suggested to you from which to make various combinations, only be sure to follow out the color scheme you select.

MAIDA McL.

HOW TO SERVE FIVE-O'CLOCK TEA.

There is no custom that is so social as the one of serving tea in the parlor to callers. It is a boon to the bashful or diffident caller, for it breaks up all formality and puts one at ease. The furnishings of a tea-table may be as cheap or as costly as one desires, but in these days of pretty, inexpensive china and good plated ware, a dainty outfit can be had for a few dollars.

Any low table that has a shelf below will answer, although the fancy of the day is for a round table of polished wood. An old table can be enameled at a trifling cost, and is as dainty as any one could wish. A square table should have a square hemstitched doily for the top, and another for the shelf. Some, for a variety, will put a centerpiece, surrounded by small doilies, a cup and saucer being placed upon each doily. A round or oval table should have doilies as near the shape of the top as possible. The articles that one must have are an alcohol-lamp and kettle (those of brass are the most stylish where one cannot have sterling silver), cups and saucers, tea-pot, sugar-bowl, creamer, tea ball or strainer, small spoons, slop-bowl, pretty bottle

and a goodly supply of alcohol. Where one can afford them, it is well to add a cracker-jar, a tea-caddy and a silver plate for cake, where it is served instead of crackers. A small rose-jar or a pretty

used, half fill it with tea, place it in a cup and fill the cup two thirds full with boiling water, dipping the ball up and down for a few minutes, then fill another cup in the same manner. One filling will make three cupfuls of tea. Before filling a cup, pour a little boiling water into it and rinse it to warm the cup, then pour the water into the slop-bowl. Never fill a cup more than two thirds full; and should a cup slop over, empty it and fill another in its place. One should have at least eight cups, and as these can all be different, one can add to their collection from time to time.

With the tea is served small cakes or fancy crackers; but if cake is preferred, it must be plain, and not rich enough to soil one's gloves, which are seldom removed. Where one does not have rich cream, the tea is served with a slice of lemon instead. Let everything be as dainty as possible. The writer has seen tea served from a common pot, and in plain cups, that was far daintier than at some places where there was costly silver and imported china.

MAY LONARD.

NECK-DRESSING.

It is almost indicative, these days, of the lady in the exquisiteness of her neck accessories, whether it be ribbon, lace or linen. In nothing about her attire can she so quickly show slovenliness as in this. Where the hair is worn low on the neck, the most of the lace should appear at the sides. When the hair is dressed high, a high ruff of large bows can be worn at the back.

But if the dear maid would only remember that every one sees her back more readily than her face, many times she would be much more particular than she is. A scrappy, pinned ribbon, soiled, perhaps, can be the sole thing a person sees



with rich, golden cream, is indeed a dish fit for the gods.

MRS. J. R. MACKINTOSH.

Last winter my little boy, five years old, took Whooping Cough. The doctor said his lungs were diseased, and gave him medicine, but it did no good. Then I tried Jayne's Expectorant and it cured him.—L. C. RAWLS, Sempright, Ala., Sept. 1895.

Easy to take and effective, Jayne's Sensitive Pills.



the rooms and table. If possible have the doilies and centerpiece embroidered in yellow. The corners of the table-cloth may be caught up with bows of yellow ribbon; if you have no centerpiece in yellow,

BEING "DRESSED UP."

A pretty lady, a friend of mine, made me smile when I asked her, the other day, whether she intended to take a trip this season. She exclaimed:

"Nothing could induce me to do so, at least for a while. I have just returned from a three weeks' visit, and I am tired of being 'dressed up.' George says [George being her husband] that I wear my clothes too tight."

Her frankness awoke in my mind a long reverie on the joys and miseries of being dressed up. What woman has not felt the enthusiasm of getting a new dress, the interesting visits to the dress-maker, or endured the patient days of sewing if she made the garment herself? But after the thing was complete, who has not put it away, after once or twice wearing, donned the old gown and sighed with lazy relief in a comfortable negligee?

The efforts of prominent American women to create "dress reform" have been spasmodic, and generally undertaken by such plain, unattractive specimens of womankind, that, like certain unmannerly evangelists of religion, they have done the cause more harm than good. There remains a deep-rooted desire to be proudly arrayed at times, but I think this is like the wish to be occasionally very grave, dignified or reverent in manner; it must alternate with relaxation, just as the loftier moods of mind must give place, often, to gaiety, ease, abandon.

When we study the manner of women's garments in other countries, we Americans have to reproach ourselves with the fact that our follies are about equal to those of other lands, only differing in kind. Miss Jessie Ackermann said she felt some embarrassment when she undertook to instruct a bright little Chinese lady on the evils of foot-lacing. The Chinese woman replied, "You American ladies are tight here"—putting her hands on her untrammelled waist—"and we are tight here," pointing to her feet. The Japanese ladies have loose, flowing garments, but their hair-dressing is fearful and wonderful. It is polished compactly over cushions, and so intricately constructed in its general design that the operation is infrequently repeated. During sleep the head rests on a stiff, wooden object under the neck, so that the poor little Japanese lady in her being "dressed up" is as uncomfortable as possible.

The ancient Greeks attained the ideal of grace and comfort, and while we cannot exactly imitate their costumes, for our civilization is so different, we will gain wisdom by studying their habits, the simplicity of their housekeeping, their life in the open air, according to M. Taine, "with three urus for their furniture, two anchovies in a jar of oil for their food, waited on by slaves so as to give them leisure to cultivate their understanding and beautifully develop their bodies."

I have never been in favor of "dress reform," which so far has seemed to mean the wearing of garments which do not fit. I like to see the stock collar which brings out the beautiful curve in the lower oval of the face; I like to see the trim waist; I like the neat shoe—all of which necessitates bracing up, a renunciation of careless ease and an adoption of erect dignity. This is pleasing on the promenade, at church and in society. This kind of dress is in harmony with the self-respecting reserve with which we behave at all times, except when at home with our dearest kindred. But just as a person would soon die of homesickness if destined to be always among strangers, so the body will faint for refreshment if it is continually dressed up. A proper degree of relaxation is the remedy for the fatigue which results from too much artificiality.

The latest and best methods of physical culture make a great point of what they term relaxation. It has superseded the violent gymnastic exercises which used to be considered fine means of development. One of the best definitions is this: "Relaxation is recuperating power through repose." This is most simply brought about by loosening one's hair, discarding all garments except a gown, and lying flat on one's back, with not even a pillow

under the head. When in this position fill the lungs full, breathing with calm, deliberate regularity. Continue this process ten or fifteen minutes, and you will sleep or gently doze in a most refreshing manner.

A friend of mine who has five children, and who retains her youthful appearance in a marvelous degree, thus explained her good looks: "Every day," she said, "I go to my room at 2 o'clock P. M. I lock my door and undress. No matter what happens in the house, no one dares to disturb me. I stay alone exactly one hour. Generally I sleep, and my habit is such that I wake



on the minute. I then dress and let my light once more shine upon the world." Wise little woman.

Whenever you read of Sara Bernhardt you notice the surprise expressed that, although she is over fifty, she looks so wonderfully young. It is genuine freshness of health, and not owing to cosmetics, and she explains it from the fact that part of every year she goes to some country place, and discarding all the stiffness of civilization, she lives like a peasant.

In the heart of Tyrol there is now a "healer" to whom kings and nobles resort. He makes them go barefoot, lie on the turf and look up into the sky. He merely teaches them to relax.

To return to the idea with which we began, the discomfort of visiting, learn wisdom on the subject. When you are in a friend's house, retain your usual habits of rest. Don't stay out of bed at night later than you do at home; and if you have the habit of undressing and taking a nap every afternoon, do not depart from the good custom. Perhaps your hostess does the same when she has no company, and she may be making herself tired out of politeness to you.

In these days of morbid activity among women I am glad to preach the gospel of relaxation, and in our constant straining after style, most ladies will agree with me that it is not good to be always "dressed up." K. K.

WITH AUTUMN LEAVES.

Gather a basket of the prettiest leaves—scarlet, yellow, russet and green—and gloss them by pressing gently with a warm flat-iron which has been rubbed with white wax. A box of these waxed leaves are beautiful for winter decorations. Where one is too busy to wax every leaf, a good plan is to gather sprays of the finest leaves and put them to press in the bottom of a trunk or chest. It will only take a moment to spread a newspaper over them and then replace the weight of linen or clothing, which will press them smooth.

To decorate a room, take sheets of tissue-paper, in warm brown or yellow tints, and crimp them by crushing and running lightly through the hands. Tack these sheets on the wall in the shape of a panel, and arrange carefully on it one or two choice unmounted photographs. Brown prints of madonnas are lovely on these panels, and cherub faces are always effective. When the photographs have been carefully put in place with the tiniest little tacks, fasten up your leaves with the points all sweeping one way, as if they were drifting across the panel in the wind. In brown, yellow and crimson tints the effect of this shower of leaves is so restful and beautiful it is as if a little bit of autumn frolic and sunshine were painted on the wall.

A pretty letter-case can be made of paste-board and canvas covered with oak-leaves in old rose tints; and some dark November morning, when the snow is flying, pin your red and yellow leaves to the white sash curtains, and see how it will brighten the room. FRANCES BENNETT CALLAWAY.

GENTLEMAN'S DRESSING-GOWN AND BREAKFAST-COAT.

It is always a comfort to a man to get off his coat when he comes into the house; but he should always do something else, as many colds are taken by just this carelessness. Your husband's or brother's tailor will always cut you a good-fitting pattern for him, and you can readily make a very pretty and useful garment for all ordinary wear. It should always be lined, as the change is too great from a lined to an unlined coat. With facings of quilted satin, or even plain, it can be a very pretty home affair. If you get one cut out at the tailor's of double-faced material, you should first bind all the raw edges with silk binding, and when the seams are sewn, press them open and your seam presents quite a tailor-like appearance. Your men-folks will like it better if you make it yourself. The same pattern will do for alpaca, linen and pongee coats for summer-time wear. L. L. C.

FROM HERE AND THERE.

Most housewives are interested in new departures (at least new to them) in the cooking line, and most families are likewise interested in the eating result of such new departures. The following recipes may prove an agreeable addition to the household menu:

CUCUMBERS IN MILK.—Many people will look askance at this combination, which is generally avoided. Nevertheless, when prepared as follows it is not to be despised: The cucumbers should be pared (of course),

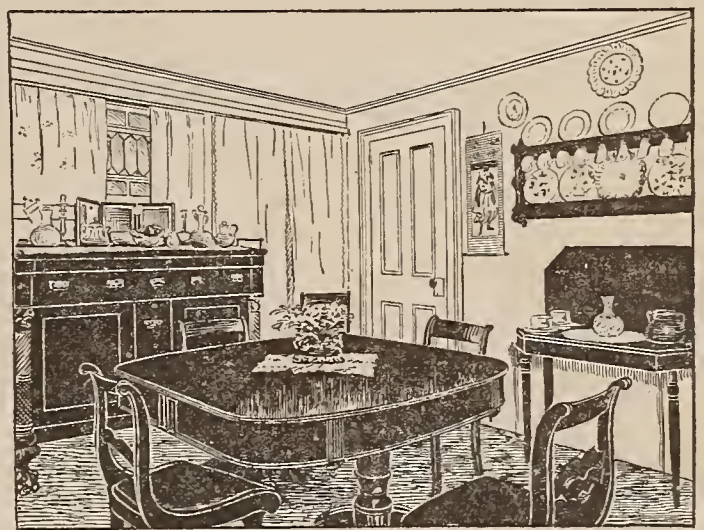
then sliced and salted and placed in a saucepan over a slow fire, in order that (and until) they become tender. Prepare a milk sauce, thickened with flour and sweetened, to which add the slices of cucumber after they have been strained. This dish should be served while hot, which is quite in contrast to the usual manner of serving this vegetable.

LYONNAISE POTATOES.—A very pleasant change from the ordinary mashed, creamed or boiled potatoes is the following recipe: For the ordinary family will be required a quart of cold boiled potatoes, cut into small cubes, one-third cupful of butter, one tablespoonful of chopped onion, one tablespoonful of parsley, a teaspoonful of salt and a little pepper. Fry the onion in the hot butter until it turns yellow; then add the potatoes, which should be stirred carefully in order not to break them. When thoroughly heated through, add the parsley, and serve. EMMA LOUISE HAUCK.

TO CAN CUCUMBER PICKLES.

If possible, pick the cucumbers when of a uniform size, about three or four inches in length. When enough has been collected to fill two one-quart glass cans, wash the cucumbers in cold water, and drain; now add to them half a cupful of salt and cover them with scalding water and let stand twenty-four hours, then place them in a porcelain kettle and cover with cider vinegar and scald them up. If the pickles are liked sour and sharp, it is well to turn off the vinegar and add fresh, in which spices may be added it desired. When the pickles are thoroughly heated through, fill the cans by pressing them in firmly, after which fill the cans with the hot vinegar, and seal up the same as for fruit. Pickles put up in this way are always ready for use, and will retain their flavor and crispness as well as keep for any length of time. A. C. B.

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Sometimes your voice,
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And make its choice.

I've counted o'er your separate ways,
My dearest mate,
Searching for what peculiar grace
Contained my fate.

Vain task! I love you, dearest one,
For all you are—
The charm of heaven hangs not upon
A single star.

—Washington Star.

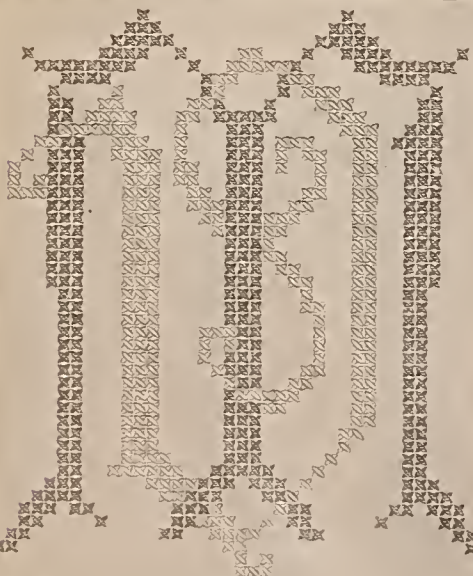
FOR THE INVALID.

TOO OFTEN, when planning little gifts or pleasures for our friends, the chronic invalid is overlooked or neglected, not through unkindness, but for want of thoughtfulness. Accustomed to seeing one in the self-same place day in and day out, month after month and year after year, we forget how monotonous the days are, or if we do think, are apt to pass it by, remarking, "Oh, yes, but they are used to it." Being "used to it" hardly seems to vary the dullness, lighten the gloom or cheer the lonely hour. The four walls of the invalid's room is in a sense the boundary of her little world. All the brightness, all the pleasure, all the joy that comes to her must be brought within its confines. Such being the case, countless little things, unnoticed in health, create a diversion and bring enjoyment.

A nervous invalid became so tired of the sight of a plain flower-pot that even the plant it contained ceased to be attractive. On waking from a nap one day, she was delighted to find that a thoughtful friend had provided the offending pot with a cover of white linen on which a conventional border was embroidered in soft brown and dull red shades of outline silks. When it became soiled it was replaced by one of grass linen, embroidered in copper color and dull blue in an entirely different design. As the silk used launders nicely, they were used alternately, providing a change and relieving the monotony, which to her meant much, although to the well it seemed weak and childish.

Sometimes it is so hard to decide on a suitable gift for an invalid that she is neglected because nothing suitable suggests itself. A book, magazine article or short story, with passages marked, showing appreciation, will give more pleasure than many costly things. Indeed, it is the subtle something breathing the air of thoughtful attention, rather than the cost of a gift, that renders it valuable to an invalid.

One highly appreciated gift was a small portfolio, the cover of an old book forming its foundation. A slip cover of white linen was provided, on which the words "Bits of Brightness" were embroidered with golden filo floss. Sprays and single blossoms of forget-me-nots in natural colors, worked with the same silk, further ornamented it. It contained an assortment of clippings, stories, "heart talks," tender poems, bright sayings, comic pictures—



V M

anything to amuse and interest one shut in from the world and outside life.

Linen bags, prettily embroidered with Asiatic wash silks, to hang on the arm-chair or bed, to hold handkerchief, work or book; a cover for the table that stands within reach, one end turned up to form pockets for the reception of little things; anything that will be handy and serve to render her independent by placing needed

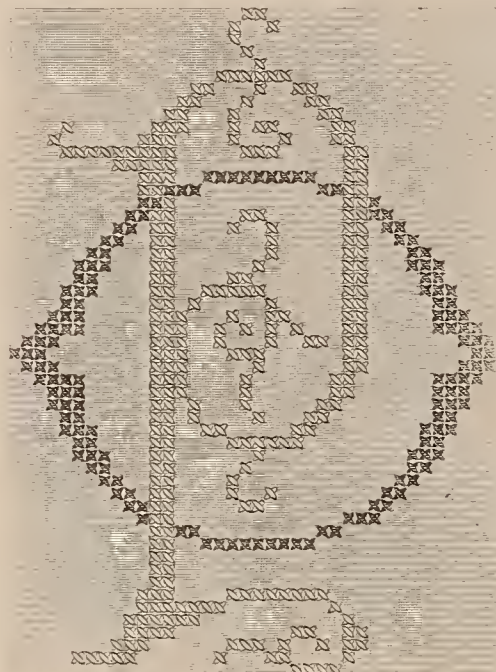
things within reach will be appreciated. All such things should be of wash materials.

Anything in the way of culinary gifts is always acceptable, even though it be the same things that the family larder affords. A tiny custard, a dainty meat or chicken pie in a small pan, a fruit pie in fancy shape, a little loaf of brown bread, half a dozen rolls or dainty sandwiches, fancy cakes, a few fresh eggs or pat of butter—anything that speaks of thoughtfulness and shows it was meant for her individually, not a part left over from the family supply. Just as highly appreciated are the articles that may be kept and enjoyed when fancy dictates. The glass of jelly quivering in the light; the small jar of preserves, suggesting stored sunshine; one of pickles or of prepared meats will provide pleasure in anticipation as well as in the gustatory act.

CLARA SENSIBLAUGH EVERTS.

CROSS-STITCH LETTERS.

So many of the old things are being revived that along with them comes the old art of cross-stitch. The sight of these kind of letters on bed-linen, towels or



P O

underwear brings back many happy memories, when as little girls we sat down to our samplers to learn to work the alphabet, numbers and little conventional borders and sprigs of flowers. It has always stayed with me, and my individual belongings are always distinct from the rest by their cross-stitch letters.

It is best to begin by learning on canvas. If an article of clothing or a piece of linen is to be marked, baste a piece of canvas on your article the size of your letters; work upon that, and draw out the threads when done. This makes the letter very perfect. Where a monogram is used, two colors look well. Always make the letter of the surname the dominant color. We used to confine ourselves to Turkey-red cotton, black silk and zephyrs, but in these days of wash silks, one can use a great deal of taste and make them very decorative.

For table-linen it is best to use the white linen floss, as silk yellows in washing. One can become expert enough to do without the canvas by a little practice.

CHRISTIE IRVING.

WAIST-CUTTING.

Select material for a dress with reference to the individuality of the wearer and the occasions on which it is to be worn. Select waist-lining suitable to the dress material. The lining for a thick, rough cloth should be of light weight, but firm and of good quality; that for a light-weight wool may be a thick, firm silesia. Silesia makes good waist-lining, although percaline is preferred by some. Silk should be used with gauzy materials when a color effect is desired. If a wash dress is to be lined, the lining should be shrunk and pressed before being used.

Patterns are in numbered sizes, those for waists being numbered by the corresponding number of inches bust measure, taken snugly over the dress. Snugly does not mean tightly. The directions given with each pattern are good, and this article will treat only of a few important features which are sometimes overlooked. If you measure, say, thirty-five inches bust, get a thirty-six-inch pattern, as they are not cut in sizes to correspond to the odd number

IVORY SOAP



The Traveler who would thoroughly enjoy his toilet and bath must carry a half cake in his toilet case.

of inches, and it is a mistake to get a pattern that is too small.

Many cut the waist-lining with the sections laid on across the breadth of silesia, the waist-line coinciding with a line of the warp. Cut each section for one half of the waist separately, then cut the sections for the other side by those already cut.

Allowance for alterations should be made in the under-arm and shoulder seams, and all alterations should be made at these seams. Never alter the darts; if they seem to need letting out below the waist-line, the fault is to be remedied at the shoulder, by taking a larger seam or taking up the front only.

If you are using a new pattern it is best to baste and partially fit the lining before cutting the outside, otherwise the extra fitting is not necessary and is liable to stretch the lining. After cutting the lining, baste a very small tuck across each section of the lining about an inch above the waist-line. This is to allow fullness in the lining and to prevent the outside from wrinkling when finished.

Baste each section of lining on the dress material, being sure that the weave of the lining is parallel with that of the material. Baste about one inch from the edge with rather short stitches, pulling the basting out of the tuck and distributing the fullness for a few inches above the waist-line. There should be no gathers, but the lining should be slack. Leave bastings in until the waist is faced at the bottom and the sleeves sewn in. Remember to press all linings and dress materials before cutting, and do all basting carefully, and sewing will be a pleasure.

LUCY C.

SCHOOL-ROOM POLITENESS.

Don't you sometimes neglect, for "lack of time," the teaching of various little things that must sometime be learned if your pupils become really gentlemanly and ladylike? I know every teacher has her heart and hands full of cares and necessary duties, but if these little admonitions are sprinkled all along among the recitations and other not-to-be-neglected labors, how many excellent little things has the child learned which, if not learned in the school-room or at home, may be gained at a later period of life only through blundering and painful mortification.

Teachers should teach by precept as well as example. Thus, a primary teacher who is compelled each day to attend to the tying on of mufflers and putting on of wraps for children too young to prepare themselves properly for the cold or storm can easily teach each child to acknowledge her kindness by a simple "Thank you, teacher;" or if a borrowed book or pencil is returned, it takes but a moment to remark, "I am obliged to you," or "Thanks for the use of it."

These seem like trivial matters, but when we think of them it is the little things of life that make us happy or the opposite, and teachers should teach this fact. We know that it is a rule that people who become wealthy have gathered it up little by little through a period of years, and mind or soul worth—everything that goes to complete the perfect man or woman—is obtained in the same way.

AUGUSTA MILLER.

TO CAN PICKLED PEACHES.

Four pounds of sugar dissolved by boiling in a pint of sharp vinegar is a reliable rule for pickling eight pounds of peaches. Select fruit that is thoroughly ripe, but not soft. While some housekeepers prefer to pickle them with the skins on, others prefer them pared. If the former way is decided upon, the fuzz can be rubbed off with a piece of clean flannel. Before beginning to can them, proportion the syrup to the number of cans designed to be put up.

Place in a porcelain kettle the correct proportion of the syrup, we will say for a one-quart can. Now drop in peaches enough to fill the can, and let them boil up until easily pierced with a fork; pick them out one by one until the can is full; turn in the boiling juice until the can overflows, then seal up tightly and you will have fresh pickled peaches for the entire year to come. Proceed in this manner until the recipe is filled, as this is a much safer way than pickling in jars, for no matter how carefully compounded, there is always a tendency to fermentation. If spices are liked, add them to the syrup. A. C. B.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE COMING GLORY.

Oh, can it be these longing eyes,
So dim and sad, oft wet with tears,
Weary with watching for the light
Through all the long, eventful years—
Oh, can it be these eyes shall see
The King in all his majesty?

Yes, it is true, 'tis on the page
Of God's eternal, changeless word;
Oh, how it cheers our fainting heart,
So oft with pain and sorrow stirred—
These tear-dimmed eyes one day shall see
The King in all his majesty.

Sustained by hope I wait and watch
Prophetic signs as they appear,
While trembling earth and roaring wave
Proclaim that time's last hour is near—
That glorious hour when I shall see
The King in royal majesty.

Cheer up, thou weary, toil-worn saint,
Unto the hill lift up thine eyes;
Thy pilgrimage is nearly o'er,
And thy "redemption draweth nigh."
A "little while," and thou shalt see
The King in glorious majesty.

—Geo. A. Collins.

THE MARK OF INTELLIGENCE.

THAT we live in an age of reform is one of the ever-present facts that faces intelligence. To define the fine line that separates mere change from reform is difficult. Some of us go through life with the feeling that all things of the past are bad, are not up to the standards of the knowledge of to-day, so that we are prepared to revise and throw aside every opinion, from our creed to our method of boiling potatoes. Every new idea is accepted as an advance. Change is not always progress, nor discoveries the mile-stone, the trade-marks of knowledge. All that is valuable in the increase of knowledge simplifies living. Living becomes an art, the perfection of which ceases only at the grave, so that the whole of life is cumulative. To master the knowledge that brings God into closer relation, that makes life not a period of suffering, but a period of acquisition, of health and happiness; to make health the normal condition of every soul born in this world is to make visible the divinity in man, that is his crown of glory. This is possible only as the new builds on the old. Construction, not destruction, is the mark of progress. Cumulation, not annihilation, is the secret of spiritual growth, whether for the individual or the nation. The mastery of the past is possible only when wisdom sits enthroned. Change is not, then, the impulse of the moment, but the silent growth of the passing days, unheralded, but known by the fine impulse that makes for better things.

MEAT-EATING AND TEMPER.

Mrs. Ernest Hart, who accompanied her husband in his recent trip around the world, appears to come to the conclusion that meat-eating is bad for the temper. In the "Hospital" she says that in no country is home rendered so unhappy and life made so miserable by the ill-temper of those who are obliged to live together as in England. If we compare domestic life and manners in England with those of other countries where meat does not form such an integral article of diet, a notable improvement will be remarked. In less meat-eating France urbanity is the rule of the home; in fish and rice eating Japan harsh words are unknown, and an exquisite politeness to one another prevails even among the children who play together in the streets. In Japan I never heard rude, angry words spoken by any but Englishmen. I am strongly of opinion that the ill-temper of the English is caused in a great measure by a too abundant meat dietary, combined with a sedentary life. The half-oxidized products of albumen circulating in the blood produce both mental or moral disturbances. The healthful thing to do is to lead an active and unselfish life, on a moderate diet, sufficient to maintain strength and not increase weight.

QUARRELSOME PEOPLE.

Some people are born with quarrelsome tendencies, but by far the greatest number of those who spend their time in petty contentions have a quarrelsome disposition thrust upon them in childhood. Take, for example, a family in which there is a habit of bickering over trifles. One person announces at breakfast that Uncle Robert

and Aunt Amanda are coming to call to-day after their drive from the farm and their visit to Cousin Sue's. Another instantly declares that the two relatives have no intention whatever of calling at Cousin Sue's, and a third says they are coming to-morrow and not to-day.

The matter in dispute could be easily settled by a reference to the letter which gave the information, but nobody thinks of this, and the household is agitated and upset by an undignified and absurd squabble, to no purpose whatever. Worse still, the home atmosphere is disturbed, and the children learn to be cross and contradictory, human nature being prone to learn the worse rather than the better thing on every possible occasion.

It is a good rule in home life to avoid all arguments which tend to irritate or wound. Blessings on the memory of a saint of ninety years who once said to me, I being a girl of fifteen at the time, "Dear child, never insist on the last word about anything. It isn't worth while. You can keep your own opinion, but let your friend express his if he wants to, and refuse for your part to quarrel about a trifle."—Baltimore Advocate.

LIFE'S LITTLE DAYS.

One secret of sweet and happy Christian life is learning to live by the day. It is the long stretches that tire us. We think of life as a whole, running on for us. We cannot carry this load until we are three score and ten. We cannot fight this battle continually for half a century. But really there are no long stretches. Life does not come to us all at one time; it comes only a day at a time. Even to-morrow is never ours until it becomes to-day, and we have nothing whatever to do with it but to pass it down a fair and good inheritance in to-day's work well done, and to-day's life well lived.

It is a blessed secret, this living by the day. Any one can carry his burden, however heavy, till night-fall. Any one can do his work, however hard, for one day. Any one can live sweetly, patiently, lovingly and purely till the sun goes down. And this is all that life ever means to us—just one little day. "Do to-day's duty; fight to-day's temptations, and do not weaken and distract yourself by looking forward to things you cannot see and could not understand if you saw them." God gives us nights to shut down the curtain of darkness on our little days. We cannot see beyond. Short horizons make life easier, and give us one of the blessed secrets of brave, true, holy living.—British Weekly.

DON'T WORRY.

Don't worry about something that you think may happen to-morrow, because you may die to-night, and to-morrow will find you beyond the reach of worry. Don't worry over a thing that happened yesterday, because yesterday is a hundred years away. If you don't believe it, just try to reach after it and bring it back. Don't worry about anything that is happening to-day, because to-day will last only fifteen or twenty minutes.

Don't worry about things you can't help, because worry only makes them worse. Don't worry about things you can help, because then there's no need to worry. Don't worry at all. If you want to be penitent, now and then it won't hurt you a bit to go into the sackcloth-and-ashes business a little; it will do you good. But worry, worry, worry, fret, fret, fret—why, there's neither sorrow, penitence, strength, penance, reformation, hope nor resolution in it. It's merely worry.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

NO MORE WHISTLING.

An old gentleman recently remarked as to how much less whistling is now heard on the streets than when he was a boy. "Why," said he, "when I was an apprentice lad we all whistled. There was whistling, whistling by every bright young lad you met." Being asked how he accounted for the change in this respect, he replied: "Well, I will tell you one reason. Our young lads can't whistle now because they have cigarettes in their mouths." And there is too much truth in that remark.

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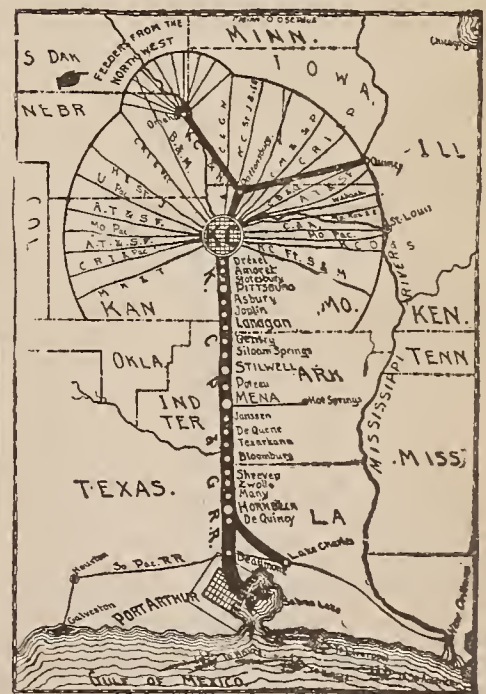
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Our Miscellany.

A WOMAN should never accept a lover without the consent of her heart, nor a husband without the consent of her judgment.

THE expectations of life depend upon diligence, and the mechanic that would perfect his work must first sharpen his tools.—Confucius.

ENGLAND has three guinea-pig farms, one of which exports 150,000 yearly to France, where they are used at restaurants as rabbits, the flavor of the flesh being identical in the two animals. The industry is said to be very profitable.

MANY people cry out for liking, for recognition, for admiration, and consider it a cold, unfeeling world that fails to respond; while the truer life would be to seek such achievements of character and service as to be worthy of the love and admiration they crave. The most satisfying thing in life is, indeed, love and sympathy; but these, like fame, must come spontaneously and indirectly, if they come at all, and not be sought as a specific end or direct aim in themselves.—Lilian Whiting.

THE BURIED CITY OF COPAN.

In 1891 the Peabody museum, through the efforts of Mr. Charles P. Bowditch, acquired the care of the antiquities of Honduras from the government of that country, for the period of ten years, with the right of taking away one half of the objects found in the excavations. It was planned to send an expedition to Copan during the dry season of each year, and to further this purpose a committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Charles P. Bowditch, Mr. Francis C. Lowell and Professor F. W. Putnam, curator of the museum. The first expedition was sent out in 1891. The work of this and subsequent expeditions has been rich in results, but I can only outline briefly what they have accomplished, after saying a few words about Copan itself.

In the central part of the ruins of Copan are the great pyramidal foundations on which the temples arose. The principal ruins are grouped about a main structure, a vast, irregular pile, rising from the plain in steps and terraces, and terminating in huge, terraced elevations, each topped by the remains of a temple. The summit of the highest of these is about one hundred and thirty feet above the level of the river which laps the foundations of the fallen structures. Only the foundations and parts of the lower walls of the temples now remain in position, and these are marked with many hieroglyphic inscriptions. Surrounding the temples and palaces to the distance of a mile or more on every side are the remains of stone houses, probably the dwellings of the nobles and wealthier citizens, and beyond these are found innumerable stone foundations without any remains of superstructure. It is conjectured that on these stood wooden houses, the dwellings of the poorer classes, of which every trace has disappeared.—Harper's Weekly.

A SIMPLE FIRE-EXTINGUISHER.

Hand-grenades, the simplest form of fire-extinguisher, can be made at home cheaply and easily. And it is well to have at hand a simple contrivance for extinguishing a small fire at its start.

Take twenty pounds of common salt and ten pounds of sal ammoniac (nitrate of ammonia, to be had of any druggist), and dissolve in seven gallons of water. Procure quart bottles of thin glass, such as are ordinarily used by druggists, and fill with this, corking tightly and sealing, to prevent evaporation.

In case of fire throw so as to break in or near the flame. If the fire is in such a place as to prevent the bottle from breaking, as in wool or cotton, knock off the neck and scatter the contents.

The breaking of the bottle liberates a certain amount of gas, and the heat of the fire generates more, thus working its own destruction.

HOW SOME OF OUR READERS CAN MAKE MONEY.

Last month I cleared, after paying all expenses, \$355.55; the month previous \$260 and have at same time attended to other duties. I believe any energetic person can do equally as well, as I have had very little experience. The Dish Washer is just lovely, and every family wants one, which makes selling very easy. I do no canvassing. People hear about the Dish Washer, and come or send for one. It is strange that a good, cheap washer has never before been put on the market. The Iron City Dish Washer fills this bill. With it you can wash and dry the dishes for a family of ten in two minutes without wetting the hands. As soon as people see the washer work they want one. You can make more money and make it quicker than with any other household article on the market. I feel convinced that any lady or gentleman can make from \$10 to \$14 per day around home. My sister and brother have started in the business and are doing splendid. You can get full particulars by addressing the Iron City Dish Washer Company, Station A, Pittsburg, Pa. They help you get started, then you can make money awfully fast. Mrs. W. H. —.

ANTIQUITY OF THE STEEL SQUARE.

The author of "The Steel Square and Its Uses" speaks of the antiquity of that useful tool as follows:

"Pliny says that Theodorus, a Greek, of Samos, invented the square and level, but this cannot be, for the square figures were in the represented designs of the Tower of Babel, one of the earliest known structures. The city of Babylon was a perfect square, and the bricks used in its buildings and walls were square; so probably were those in Babel. Now, to form squares correctly, and to introduce them in endless combination into buildings, it needed a guiding instrument of some kind. So the square, as a constructive tool, came into use. Among the ruins of Babylon, Nineveh and Petra it is said to have been represented. There are pictures and sculptures from the ruins of Thebes, in Egypt, showing the square in the hands of the artisan. Evidences of its use are also to be seen in ruins in India, which are thought by some to antedate those found in Egypt. Among the ruins of the Aztecs, or the people before them, in Peru and Brazil, it has also been found; and though tools of stone and flint, such as axes, hatchets, hammers, etc., were the first used by primitive man in these ruins that date back beyond history, the square is found, and specimens may be seen in the British museum. The square was regarded by the ancients as a symbol of completeness. Simonides speaks of a man square as to his hands, feet, his mind, etc. Aristotle uses a similar expression."

It now transpires, says the "Scientific American," that the square was known and used by the ancient Babylonians as far back as 9,000 years before Christ, if we are to place any confidence in the recent discoveries made at Nippur by Americans who are making excavations at that ancient city.

SIMPLE DESSERTS.

Bananas, oranges and nuts are good staple desserts for the winter. Stuffed bananas are recommended by the Boston Cooking-school. Purchase the fairest and best looking bananas obtainable. Remove carefully one section of the banana-skin, not breaking it off, as it is to be replaced, and scoop out the pulp, mashing it fine. For four bananas, add two thirds of a cupful of powdered sugar, one cupful of cream, whipped, and half a tablespoonful of lemon-juice. Mix well, fill the skins and replace the section of skin, tying, if necessary, with a thread. Pack in tin boxes surrounded with equal parts of salt and ice. To prevent the salt-water from reaching the inside of the box, wind buttered cheese-cloth around the covers and seams of the boxes. Let it stand for two hours, and serve each banana on a dolly, tying with a white ribbon. The result might be termed a glorified banana.

A SUCCESSFUL NURSERY'S GROWTH.

A long story of enterprise and business success is condensed in the brief statement of the Harrison's Nurseries, at Berlin, Md., concerning the way one department of their work—that of supplying strawberry plants—has increased. In 1888 they grew two thousand five hundred plants, in 1896 two million and a half, in 1897 ten million. But the beginning of these extensive nurseries was with peach trees, and of these there were more than a million budded during the present year. There is a great demand for these peach trees from peach growers in many states because of the extraordinary success that has attended the Harrison's in their cultivation in years past. The specialty in this line is the Fitzgerald peach, a yellow fruit of the finest quality, ripening with the Crawford, and a sure bearer. Another specialty at these nurseries has been asparagus roots, the cultivation of which, begun in 1892, has become an important factor in the business. Columbian White and Donald's Elmira asparagus roots are recent productions of rare merit which have been added to the list of more ordinary varieties. Other specialties are Japan Plums and Miller Red Raspberries, in growing both of which the Harrison Nurseries have become notably successful. Descriptions of new fruits and small fruits, and their general catalogue, is sent free on application.

HAVE YOU NOTICED?

Have you ever noticed how much of Christ's life was spent in doing kind things?—in merely doing kind things? Run over it with that in view, and you will find that he spent a great proportion of his time simply in making people happy; in doing good turns to people. What God has put in our power is the happiness of those about us, and that is largely to be secured by our being kind to them.—Prof. Drummond.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 220 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

WON BY THE RABBI.

Jones was on his last legs. In fact, it was a matter of but a few days for him, so he sent for three ministers—a Presbyterian, a Methodist and a Jewish rabbi, and told them that if they each put \$100 in his coffin he would leave them \$5,000 each in his will. He died shortly after, and the day after he was buried the Methodist minister met the Presbyterian and asked him if he had put his \$100 in the casket.

"I did," said the Presbyterian minister.

"In what form did you put it in?" asked the Methodist minister.

"In five twenty-dollar gold pieces."

"Well, you'll get your \$5,000."

"How did you put yours in?"

"I put in a crisp, new \$100 bill."

"Well, you'll get your \$5,000, too."

Just then they saw the rabbi across the street, and they called him over and asked him in what form he had put his \$100 in the casket.

"I put in my check for \$300 and took out the change."—New Haven Palladium.

PROSPERITY OF FARMERS IN TIDEWATER VIRGINIA.

There is cause for rejoicing among the farmers in Virginia. The crops of melons, potatoes, peanuts, general grain and truck have been unsurpassed, and the prices obtained in the Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York markets have been the highest ever paid. On the first and third Tuesdays of each month Settlers' tickets will be sold from Chicago and the Northwest over the Big Four and Chesapeake & Ohio Ry., at greatly reduced rates. For particulars and descriptive pamphlet of Virginia, address U. L. Truitt, N. W. P. A., 234 Clark Street, Chicago.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

White House Whitewash.—J. H. S., Winona, Minn. The following is the whitewash recipe you ask for: Good unslaked lime, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel; slake it with boiling water, keeping it covered during the process. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve. Add to it salt, 1 peck previously dissolved in water; rice, 3 pounds, hoiled to a thin paste and stirred in boiling hot; Spanish whiting, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound; clean glue, 1 pound, previously dissolved in warm water; and hot water, 5 gallons. Stir the mixture well, let it stand a few days, and then apply it hot.

English Sparrows.—W. S. Ulrich, Ill., writes: "I have a cabbage-patch of about five thousand plants of the late varieties. I was busy and did not get time to spray them when it should have been done, and when I took time to look at them I found them full of the green worms, and the patch full of the white miller, and gave up all hopes. The next day a man staying with me called my attention to a lot of English sparrows in the patch. We watched them carefully and found they were after the worms. The patch is full of them now, and I cannot find a worm, and the cabbage is heading nicely. If the birds will stay I will have a good crop. So much for the much-abused sparrow."

To Keep Flies Off Cattle.—O. C. L., Wintshoro, N. Y., writes: "I have tried different things to keep flies off cattle, but without avail until this summer. I saw the following recommended, and it proved a great success—a comfort to the cows and a profit to the owners. One farmer here found by using the mixture that he had an increase of a pound of butter a week from each cow. Hope you will give this to your readers, though late in the season, but a copy can be preserved for using when fly-time comes next year. Take coal-tar two parts, and coal-oil and grease each one part, and mix with a small amount of carbolic acid. Apply with a cloth or brush by moistening the hair and horns with the liquid. In applying, include the feet and legs, and it will drive every fly away, and one application will last ten days or more in dry weather. Apply as often as necessary, and your cows will be entirely free from flies of all kinds. Any kind of old grease will do."

An Appreciative Reader.—E. H. R., Omaha, Neb., writes: "I and my family value FARM AND FIRESIDE more than any other reading that reaches us, not excepting the daily paper. We find it invaluable on our farm of 100 by 150 feet, one half of which is lawn and buildings. With the help of Mr. Greiner's writing and other hints I am raising off my little garden from \$50 to \$75 worth of fruits and vegetables each year, and get double that amount in health and pleasure. From notes on 'Celery Culture' I have learned to raise the finest celery in the market. Not much, of course, but one thousand or one thousand two hundred nice bunches at fifty cents a dozen isn't bad. My wife finds the poultry department most useful, and reads it with great profit. We keep the papers on file and refer to them continually. I was brought up on a farm, and, though chained to a desk for seventeen years, I still love the soil and the free outdoor life of the farmer, and hope to have a good farm of my own some day. So you see I can appreciate your breezy, well-written notes, and they, with my morning and evening work, keep me in touch with country life."

Oats for Milk.—M. M. S., Pauline, Neb., writes: "Please give the feeding value of oats for milk-cows. Will it pay to feed 13-cent oats for 10-cent butter? What amount of butter should a bushel of oats make from ordinary cows running in stalk-fields and with straw to eat at night?"

REPLY.—The feeding value of oats for milk-cows is high, but we are unable to see how you can make any profit from feeding them under the conditions named. Dry blades and husks from standing corn-stalks and straw are unfit foods for producing milk. It is impossible to make the dairy business pay with such a combination as you name—10-cent butter, ordinary cows and poor forage. You can increase the yield of milk and butter by feeding liberally a mixture of oats, two parts, and corn, one part, ground together. For feeding dairy cows you should have bright corn fodder, good clover or sweet hay from early-cut grasses, instead of corn-stalk pastures and straw. You should have good cows instead of ordinary ones. And the butter should be made by modern methods, so that it can be sold to private customers or shipped to a market where it will command twenty cents instead of ten cents a pound.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Warts on a Cow's Teats.—E. C. B., Wooster, Ohio. Please consult recent numbers of this paper. [The communication to which the above is an answer bears strong internal evidence of fraud.—D.]

Luxation of Both Patellas.—E. L. H., Croton, Mich. Your inquiry has been answered and published a month ago. You cannot expect to find an answer to your inquiries published in a semi-monthly paper immediately after the inquiry has been mailed. An immediate answer by mail can and will be given only if the inquiry is accompanied by the usual fee of one dollar.

Probably Swine-plague.—C. F. D., Marne, Iowa. What you describe appears to be a case of swine-plague. This, of course, does not exclude that the pigs may also have worms, which is quite often the case.

A Hard Swelling.—M. L., West Millgrove, Ohio. If your cow, which, as you say, has "a hard lump" on her upper jaw, also has a bad tooth, corresponding to the "lump," have that tooth pulled and the "lump" examined by a competent veterinarian, and if not too late, the "lump" treated by him.

Chronic Founder.—B. H., Mingo Junction, O. Founder, or laminitis, when becoming chronic, results in producing pumiced hoofs, and is incurable. Still, if such a horse is properly shod with a good bar-shoe, which has a broad web, so as to give all the protection possible to the tender sole and which at the same time is made very concave on the upper surface inside of the nail-holes, and if then such a horse thus shod is not used for speed on hard and paved streets or roads, but only on the farm and on country roads, the same can do a great deal of work, and be very useful. Of course, the shoes must be reset at least once a month.

Habitual Prolapsus of the Vagina.—W. P., Harrison, Neb. Keep your cow, if in the stable, on a level floor, or still better, on a floor a little higher behind than in front; avoid feeding sloppy or too voluminous food, wash the prolapsed vagina, whenever it protrudes, with a two-per-cent solution of creolin in blood-warm water, until it becomes softened and clean, and then gently press it into its place. If the cow is or has to be kept on pasture, it must be on level and not on hilly ground.

Requires an Examination.—G. G., Rosario, Wash. Your description is too meager to base upon it any diagnosis. You say your horse had distemper for two days, has "bunches" (?) on him, which were there before he had distemper, and has his breast swelled. As it may be that what you called "bunches" are farcy boils the horse by all means should be examined by a competent veterinarian. Concerning your questions, I will say that heeding the animal, no matter whether the disease is farcy (glanders) or not, will be worse than useless.

Bloody Milk.—R. W., Atchison, Kan. The possible causes of "bloody milk" have recently been so often enumerated in these columns that only those who do not read the veterinary column can have any excuse for sending inquiries concerning "bloody milk." If in your case the appearance of blood in the milk of your cow is coincident with the periods of heat, it is probably due to a general congestion of the sexual organs taking place at that time. It is useless to again enumerate all possible causes and to explain all possible probabilities. If in such a case there is any doubt concerning the cause, the animal should be examined by a competent veterinarian.

Corns.—L. T. E., Cleburne, Kan. If your pony has corns, deformed feet and sore heels (quarters), the remedy has to be applied by your horseshoer; but he can do it only if you take the pony at least once every month to his shop to have the shoes reset. If your horseshoer is familiar with the anatomy and the mechanism of the horse's foot, he will not need any instruction how to shoe the pony, and if he is not, any instruction, very likely, would be thrown away. I will therefore only say that the corns should be carefully cut out, if possible, without drawing any blood, and then the pony should be shod with well-fitting shoes, and in such a way that there will be no bearing, and consequently no pressure whatever, upon the sore parts. Whether bar-shoes, from which the inner quarters (just beneath the corns) have been removed, will be necessary or not does not proceed from your communication, and must be left to the good judgment of the horseshoer. One thing, however, is sure: if you cannot, or will not, afford to have the shoes of the pony reset at least once every month, it will be useless to make an attempt to have the animal's feet cured by shoeing, no matter how well the horseshoer understands his business.

Probably Tuberculosis.—E. H. R., Omaha, Neb., writes: "In June of this year I bought a two-year-old cow. She had calved five weeks before I got her. I have had her to the hull three times since. She hails every three weeks regularly. The hull is a fine young Jersey, a little over a year old, and has had very few cows returned. My cow feeds in a clover pasture, and has a sloop of bran, oat-shorts, three pints of each, one pint of ground corn, and a double handful of grain, oil-cake twice a day, with a regular supply of salt and plenty of fresh water. She also gets a feed of lawn-rakings or corn-stalks nearly every day, as the pasture is not very good. Can you advise any change that would have the desired effect? Another thing, the cow was brought from a herd in the interior of the state, and when she came had a slight cough, and discharge from the eyes. The cough is noticeable chiefly in the morning and evening and after feeding. It consists of two slight coughs, at intervals of a few minutes. I keep her in a dry, clean yard at night, well littered, but not covered. She keeps up her flow of milk, is growing and in good condition. Her spirits and appetite are good, but the cough and discharge continue, though they are no worse. Can anything be done for it, or is it anything serious, or something that will lead to serious results?"

REPLY.—What you describe must be suspected of being a case of tuberculosis. At any rate, if it is, every symptom mentioned, nymphomania and non-conception included, find their full explanation. To arrive at a definite diagnosis, I most decidedly have to advise you to have your cow subjected to the tuberculin test. You will have no difficulty in finding in Omaha a veterinarian who knows how to apply it. Until that is done I would not advise you to use the milk unless it has first been boiled.

Wind-galls.—F. R., Saratoga Springs, N. Y. So-called wind-galls, or wind-puffs, may be divided into two classes; namely, in wind-galls consisting in a morbid enlargement of the capsular ligament filled with synovia, and therefore situated at a joint, and in wind-galls consisting in an abnormal enlargement or expansion of a sheath of a tendon, and consequently situated along the course of the latter and between the joints. These latter, usually of an oblong form, are the only ones which can be removed by a surgical operation, to be performed by a good surgeon perfectly familiar with the anatomy and the functions of the parts in question; consequently, it will be superfluous to describe the operation. The former, the wind-galls situated at the joints as a rule, cannot be thus treated, because opening a joint is very dangerous. All wind-galls can be more or less reduced, or even be removed, if the causes can be removed; but this is seldom possible, and even where it can be done it will not do much good, unless the removal is a permanent one, because the wind-galls are sure to reappear as soon as the causes are again acting. If the causes consist in very defective mechanical proportions, every attempt to remove the same will be in vain, and

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Very truly yours,
WILLIAM H. VAN VLEET.

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BROAD CAMP, ARK., July 8, 1897.
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MRS. M. L. HILTON.

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Smiles.

A POSTER TRAGEDY.

A purple moment of bright blue bliss
Was mine, oh, green-haired maid,
When from your lips a yellow kiss
I sipped in the dark red shade.

The eery moon hung on a tree;
We sat by a vertical brook;
You were a-laughing in olive-pink glee,
And reading the edge of a book.

And I was singing a lavender song.
Speckled and mingled with blue;
But I stopped for a moment, perhaps not too long.
And kissed you; I took perhaps two.

By the red hills topped with golden snow,
By the trees tearing holes in the sky,
I swore the red world I would overthrow
For your love, or lie down and die.

But away from my vowing I was rudely snatched
And thrust far, far from you;
The color I wore with the landscape matched.
And that would, alas! never do.

And now among the blue lilies afloat,
On a sea of brown and red,
I sit on the edge of an olive-green boat
And hold my pea-green head.

—Loudon Figaro.

BOB AND THE BIKE.

ROBERT BURDETTE, the famous humorist, in a letter to the Burlington "Hawkeye," denies the report that he is dead, in the following letter dated at Bryn Mawr. The story is told in his own peculiar style, and proves that the humorist is very much alive, although somewhat worried by his experience with the bike:

My Dear Waite:—Like the true friend and loyal comrade you ever were, you do right to protest against my burial prior to autopsy.

I am indeed very much alive. Not only so, I haven't been dead even a little bit. Not once. Could have been had I wanted to be. Could be yet, but I don't want. Maybe I ought to be, even now. But, as we make weekly confession, "we have left undone those things which we ought to have done."

Possibly the rumor that I have gone dead grew out of the fact that I have learned to ride a bicycle. I say "have learned," not "am learning." Learned in one lesson, all by myself. Went out in the moonlight last Friday night to learn, having first locked my family in the house and forbade them to look out of the windows. Led my bicycle out on the turnpike—the Bryn Mawr pikes are broader than the way to destruction, twice as smooth, and much cleaner. It's a young bicycle—a colt—foaled in '97. Would give the name but for the fact that I had to pay for the wheel. Will only say, therefore, in accordance with the ethics of our profession, that it is not the wheel anybody says it is.

I held him by the withers right in the middle of the road, and mounted without assistance.

I dismounted in the same independent manner.

Got on again and proceeded to break him to saddle.

Did I ride the first time?

Well, say!

People had told me—liars of all ages and both sexes—that I couldn't fall if, when I felt that I was falling, I would stick out my foot.

I stuck out both feet and both hands and fell on my head.

I fell on one side of that diabolical wheel and then on the other; I fell on both sides at once; I fell on top of it and underneath it, and made "dog-falls" with it. I fell between the wheels; I fell behind the hind wheel and before the front wheel at the same time, and don't know yet how I did it. I fell and thrust both legs through the spokes of one wheel. I met a terrified man in a buggy, and drove him clear off the pike through Wheeler's hedge, and I don't think he has come back yet. Every time I fell I slapped the palms of my raw, swollen, throbbing hands on the hard, "inelastic" pike, except the time I fell on my head. I fell harder and with greater variety of landing than any man could fall, unless he dropped out of a balloon and lit in a load of furniture. I lost my confidence, my patience, my temper, my clamps, lamp, bell and reputation. I broke one pedal, the saddle and the ordinance against loud, boisterous and abusive language at night. I ran into everything in sight except the middle of the road. I sat down on everything in the township except the saddle. I scorched in a circuit not fifteen feet in circumference until you could smell brimstone. I made more revolutions than a South American republic, and didn't get ten feet away from where I started. I haven't been so mauled and abraded, so thumped and beaten, so trampled upon and pounded, so bruised and scratched since I left the army. But I can ride. I don't say that I "do," but "can."

Do I consider "biking" good for the health? For the health of some people, I do. I don't see how a physician can bring up his family unless his children have something to eat.

But in my own case I reserve my decision. I will wait until I know whether I am going to

die or get well. And do you tell Brother Davis to keep his obituary on the standing-gallery until he hears from "Slug Nine." I don't believe I've got "30" yet. Although friends who have called to see me break down when they say "good-by," and walk out of the room on tiptoe. But I wouldn't mind that if I knew what became of my shoulder-blades the time I ran under the hay-wagon. Cheerfully yours,
—R. J. Burdette, in Farm Machinery.

THE VET'S LAST SKIRMISH.

"Madam," said the agent for a new work on the late conflict, as he stood before an able-bodied woman who had opened the door, "I believe your husband was in the recent war, and—"

"How recent?" asked the woman, as she rested her hands on her hips.

"Sixty-five, was it not, lady?"

"I don't go back that far," she replied. "I thought maybe you meant the one he was just in afore you knocked. I'm tired of his loafin' round the house, and I jest started him in on the week's wash. I reckon he'll feel more like buyin' a plaster fer his back by the time he gets through than a book. The war me and him jest had is so recent, mister, that I reckon he ain't likely to forget very soon, and as fer you, you're wastin' your time, and I'd advise you to be shovin' up the creek, whar a monymint is to be unknivered to morry."—Truth.

EASILY COMPREHENDED.

American boy.—"Papa, what's an absolute monarchy?"

Papa.—"A country ruled by a king whose authority is unlimited. His word is law, and the people must do his bidding. Do you understand?"

American boy.—"Oh, yes; a sort of political boss."—New York Weekly.

ONE METHOD OF REASONING.

"That speaker seems to be very popular with the audience."

"I have my doubts," replied the contrary man; "I noticed they applauded him a great deal more for getting through with his speech than they did for commencing it."—Washington Star.

GARDENS AND LAWNS.

First commuter.—"I am having the worst time you ever heard of with my lawn. The grass simply will not grow. By the way, how is your garden coming on?"

Second commuter.—"Out of sight. Grass a foot high all over it."—Judge.

ODDS AND ENDS.

He.—"My darling, I always feel like taking off my shoes when I enter your sacred presence."

She.—"Well, I would rather you did it now than after we are married."—Life.

"I heard you fought a duel with Parker?"

"I did."

"Weren't you afraid to stand up before a loaded pistol?"

"Not with Parker holding it. I'm insured in his company."—Tit-Bits.

"I wish you would make a picture of the Sultan of Turkey for to-morrow's paper."

"I am afraid I have no photograph, sir."

"What of that? You know how to draw a fez, don't you?"—Puck.

Economical and wealthy farmer.—"Do you know, my son, what strict economy would do for you?"

Robert.—"I know what it has done for me, father, and I respect you for it."—Harlem Life.

Just fancy a mouse with the bicycle face! Yet that such a thing is not only possible, but an actual fact, the following story shows: A woman used to keep her bicycle in a cellar, hung from the ceiling by ropes. One night a mouse ran down the ropes on an exploring expedition, and presently landed on the front wheel. His weight caused it to revolve, and the harder he strove to clamber up to the top of the wheel the faster it went round. In the morning when a servant entered the cellar, a gaunt, gray animal, with haggard eyes and despair engraved on every feature, was found still making strenuous efforts to attain its object. The wheel was still spinning, and the cyclometer marked twenty-eight miles. It was probably very little comfort to the little beast that it had made a record—for mice.

Years ago, when it was more the fashion in Kansas than at present, United States district attorney "Bill" Perry gave a "stag party" to his friends at Fort Scott. He had procured a bountiful supply of cold beer for the delectation of his guests, but hid it away in an upper room as a post-prandial surprise. When the proper time arrived for the revelation of his surprise, he said to the assembled company:

"Boys, I have a lot of cold beer up-stairs, but before we start I want to know whether you intend to drink like gentlemen or like hogs."

"Ob, we'll drink like gentlemen; lead on, Billy," chorused a dozen voices in reply.

"That settles it," replied the jovial host, as a smile rippled over all three of his double chins, "I'll have to send for more beer. A hog always knows when he's got enough."—Kansas City Journal.

KIDNEY TROUBLES

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Also Backache.

I cannot speak too highly of Mrs. Pinkham's Medicine, for it has done so much for me. I have been a great sufferer from Kidney trouble, pains in muscles, joints, back and shoulders; feet would swell. I also had womb troubles and leucorrhœa. After using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and Blood Purifier and Liver Pills, I felt like a new woman. My kidneys are now in perfect condition, and all my other troubles are cured.—**MRS. MAGGIE POTTS, 324 Kauffman St., Philadelphia, Pa.**

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My system was entirely run down, and I suffered with terrible backache in the small of my back and could hardly stand upright. I was more tired in the morning than on retiring at night. I had no appetite. Since taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, I have gained fifteen pounds, and I look better than I ever looked before. I shall recommend it to all my friends, as it certainly is a wonderful medicine.—**MRS. E. F. MORTON, 1043 Hopkins St., Cincinnati, Ohio.**

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Before taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, I had suffered many years with kidney trouble. The pains in my back and shoulders were terrible. My menstruation became irregular, and I was troubled with leucorrhœa. I was growing very weak. I had been to many physicians but received no benefit. I began the use of Mrs. Pinkham's medicine, and the first bottle relieved the pain in my back and regulated the menses. It is the best kind of medicine that I have ever taken, for it relieved the pain so quickly and cured the disease.—**MRS. LILLIAN CRIPPEN, Box 77, St. Andrews Bay, Fla.**

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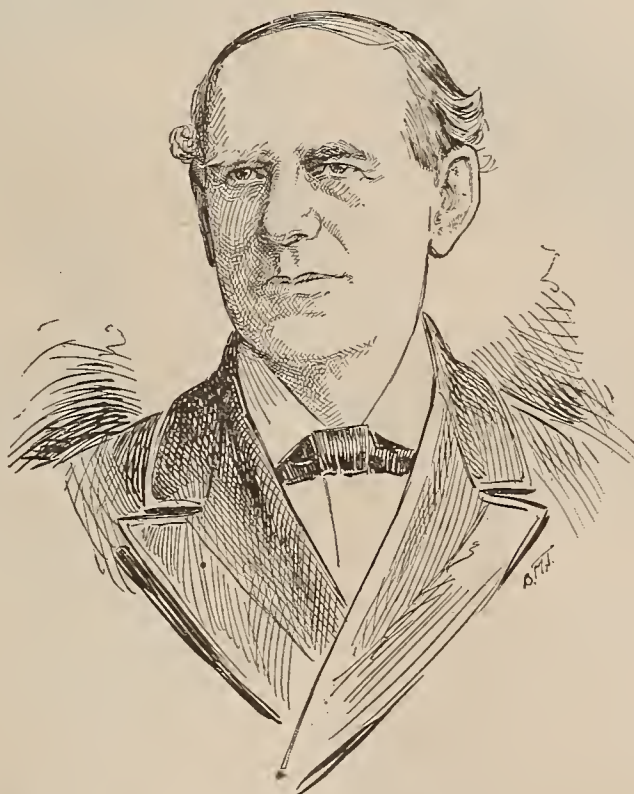
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Dr. Talmage gives the following description of the manner in which he wrote this book: "In my American home, on the Atlantic, on the Mediterranean, on camel's back, on mule's back, on horseback, under chandelier, by dim candle in tent, on Lake Galilee, in convent, at Bethel, where Jacob's pillow was stuffed with dreams, and the angel's of the ladder landed, at the brook of Elah, from which little David picked up the ammunition of five stones, four more than were needed for crushing like an egg-shell the skull of Goliath, in the valley of Ajalon, over which, at Joshua's command, Astronomy halted, on the plain of Esdraelon, the battle-field of ages, its long red flowers suggestive of the blood dashed to the bits of the horses' bridles, amid the shattered masonry of Jericho, in Jerusalem, that overshadows all other cities in reminiscence, at Cana, where plain water became festal beverage, on Calvary, whose aslant and ruptured rocks still show the effects of the earthquake at the awful hemorrhage of the five wounds that purchased the world's rescue, and with my hands mitted from the storm, or wet from the Jordan, or bared to the sun, or gliding over smooth table, this book has been written.

544 Large Pages...

"From Manger to Throne" contains 544 pages, each page 6½ inches wide by 8½ inches long. It is printed on fine-toned paper, and weighs 2½ pounds. Dr. Talmage had long been importuned to write a life of Christ, by thousands, who felt the need of a history of Jesus that they could take up and read at any hour or opportunity with ease, entertainment and instruction. This he has done in "From Manger to Throne," by which he brings all ages and all conditions to a common altar of reverent attachment.



T. De Witt Talmage

214 Illustrations...

"From Manger to Throne" is illustrated with 214 splendid engravings, many of which are full-page size, and are exact reproductions of photographs taken on the spot by Dr. Talmage or some member of his party. One of the pictures shows Dr. Talmage baptizing a candidate in the Jordan, in another he is tasting the waters of the Red Sea, in another on the back of a camel, and so on, illustrating his trip through the Bible land. There are also illustrations of scenes and events rendered dear and familiar to every Christian because of the personal associations of the Savior.

Dr. Talmage wrote the "Raising of Lazarus" at Bethany; "The Birth of Jesus" he prepared at Bethlehem; the discourse with the woman of Samaria he described while sitting at Jacob's Well; the calling of Peter and Andrew, and the stilling of the tempest, the miraculous draught of fishes, and several other miracles and incidents in the Lord's life he wrote while on the shores of Galilee; and lastly, the history of the divine tragedy he penned while sitting on Golgotha. The sublimity and beauty of these descriptions are so full of the spirit that the reader becomes almost entranced under the admiration which they excite.

Preparatory to writing "From Manger to Throne" Dr. Talmage made a special journey through the Holy Land, passing over the ground, and examining all the places made sacred and memorable by Christ's presence. He made photographs of the scenes that impressed him most, and gathered other corroborative testimony to the truth of the Apostolic records. His visits to the places where the most momentous events occurred in the life of Jesus fairly overwhelmed him with pious reflection and exaltation. To read the Gospels on the spots described was to drink in an inspiration from the surroundings, and under these incitements much of the book was written.

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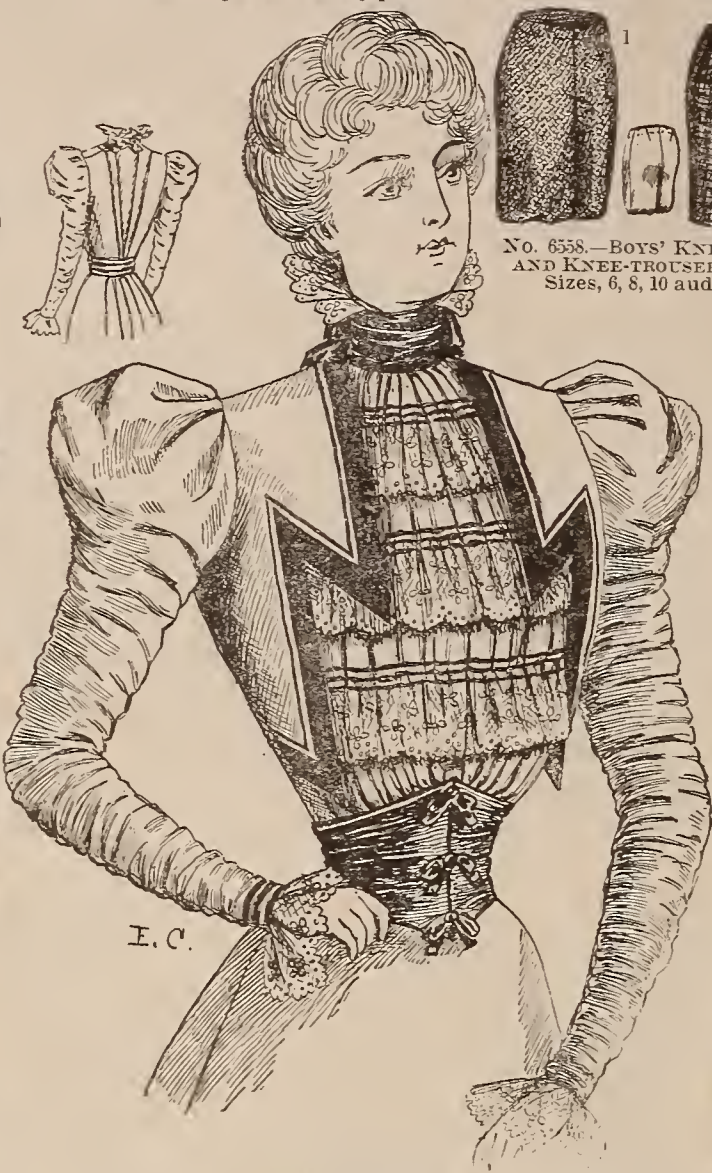
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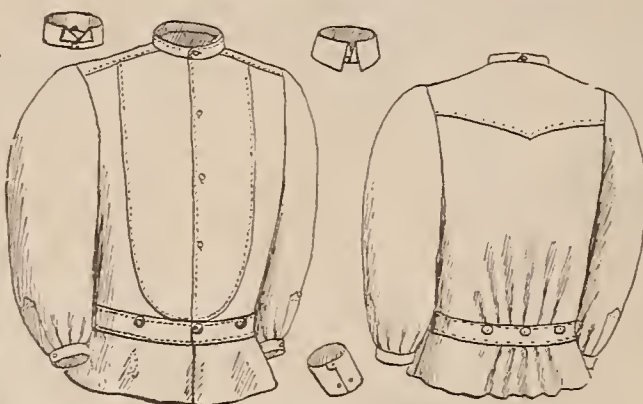


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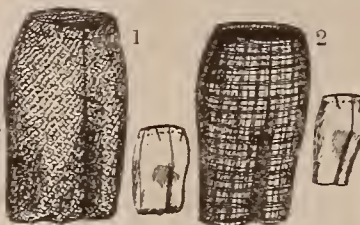
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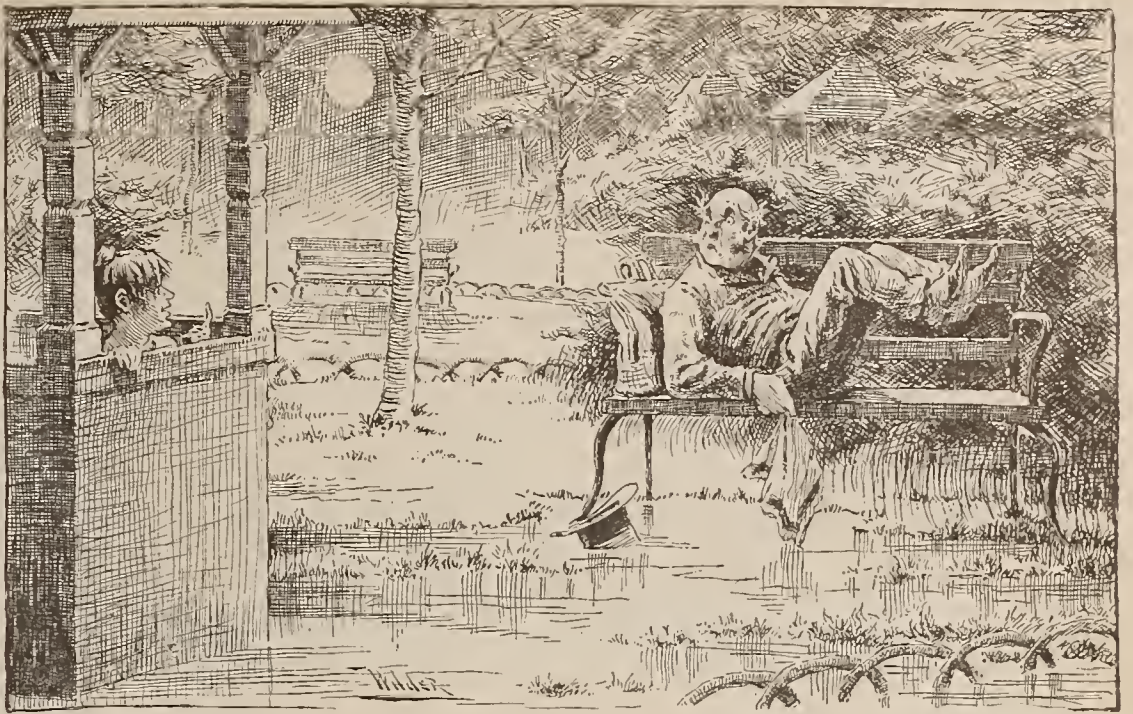
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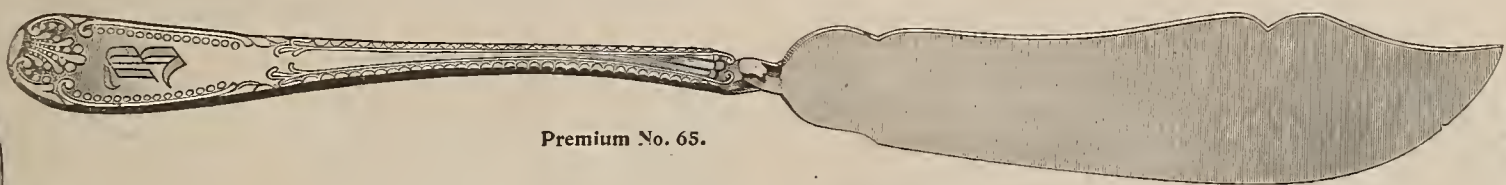
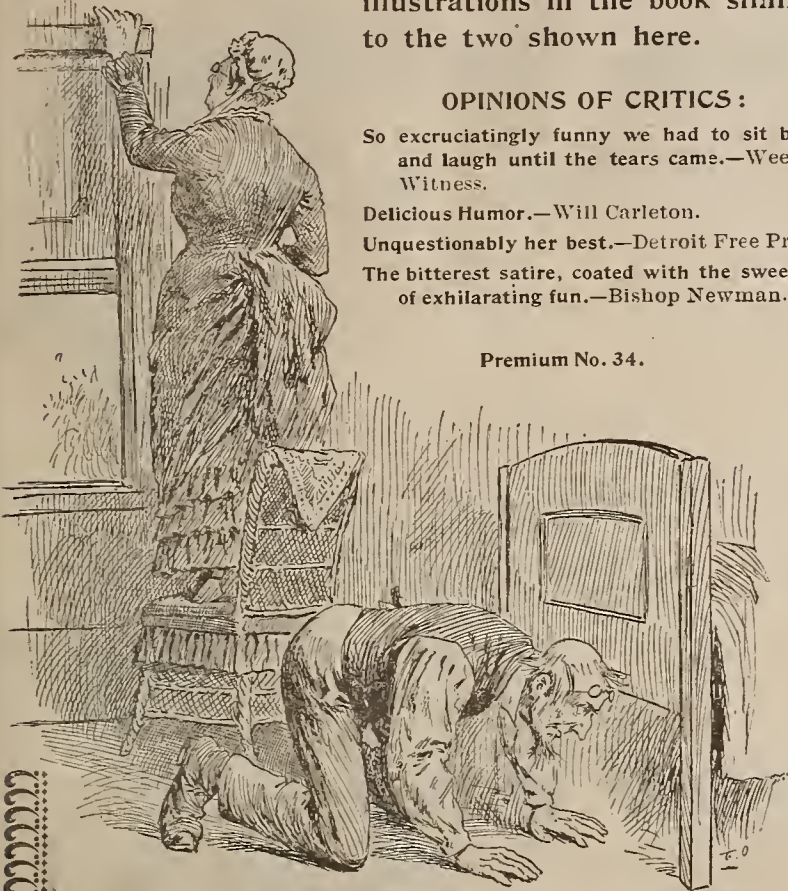
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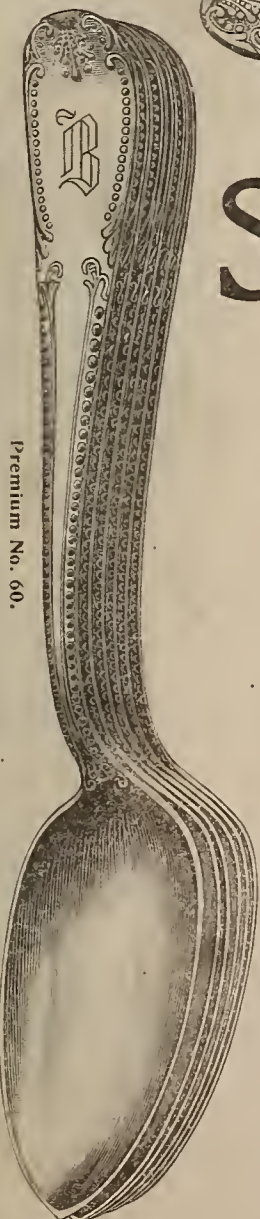
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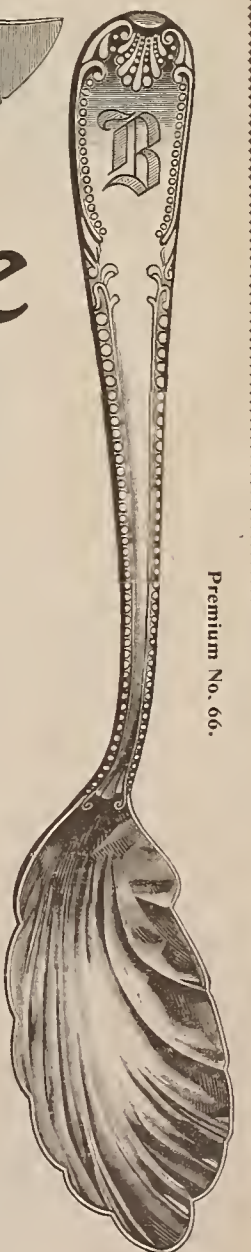
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Another had found how uselessly she had tired herself in carrying her baby or parcels or lifting heavy articles, by exerting too much will-power or by directing it through improper channels. Ladies sometimes hold their prayer-books with such rigid muscles that one could but imagine the beautiful volumes must weigh as much as a Webster's International.

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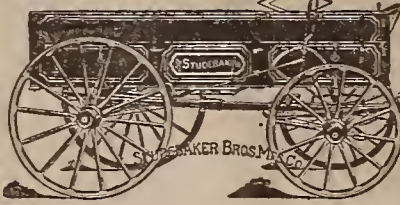
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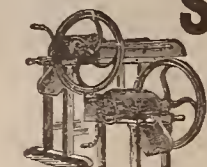


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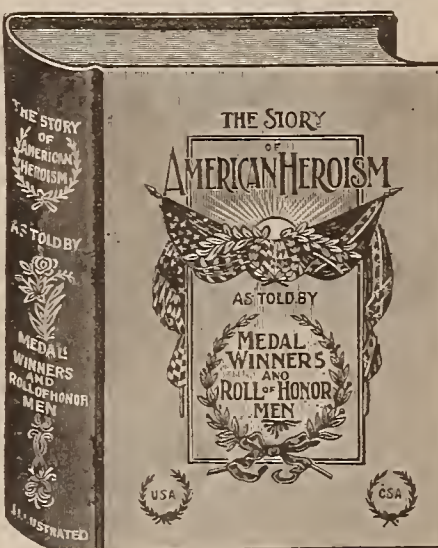
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MONARCH OF THE WORLD'S RURAL PRESS.

SEMI-MONTHLIES

In all America no semi-monthly has credit for one half so large a circulation as is accorded to the Springfield, Ohio, FARM AND FIRESIDE, and the publishers of the American Newspaper Directory will guarantee the accuracy of the circulation rating accorded to this paper by a reward of one hundred dollars, payable to the first person who successfully assails it.—From Printers' Ink, May 6, 1896.

power to redress his wrongs. He should therefore educate himself to a full understanding of his grievances and to a sufficient knowledge of the principles which should be employed to remedy them.

"The farmer reads little, and is often doubtful that he is better from that little; from it he learns more things to brood over without finding a remedy. The little glimpses he obtains of the world in what he reads intensify his prejudices, and do not prepare him to cope with apparent ills.

"A biographical sketch of a recent Congress, as furnished by its members, discloses the fact that out of a membership of four hundred and forty-four in the Senate and House of Representatives the farming element, representing over 30,000,000 people, have thirty-five members in the House and but one in the Senate. The chairman of the agricultural committee of the Senate records himself as an attorney, and the only farmer on the committee is at the tail end. Ten of the eighteen members of the House committee, including the chairman, follow the law as a profession. The great states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin and Missouri have each one farmer to represent that industry, and the heart of the great agricultural regions, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, has no representative in either branch of that legislative body.

"There are many questions upon which we should take action. Notably among these is the enlargement of the Agricultural Department, giving it the power and the means by which it can open up every possible avenue of trade for American farm products, and to extend to it the same protection accorded to other interests.

"The amendment of our interstate commerce law and anti-trust measures, giving the proper officer the right and making it his duty to send for persons and papers and compel the attendance of witnesses, or to place them behind prison-bars regardless of the millions they may possess; the extension of free-mail delivery to the rural districts, the enlargement of the Weather Bureau, more systematic crop statistics, the reclamation of the arid and semi-arid lands, and to restrict boards of trade to a point where they will prevent fraud in dealing in options, and to entirely stop the bucket-shop disgrace.

"We should ask the Congress of the United States to make sufficient appropriation to prevent the importation of infected live stock and to stamp out existing diseases."

THE following statement is credited to an address made a few years ago by Sir Moreten Frewen, of England: "An ounce of silver bullion will always buy a bushel of wheat in India, and pay the transportation on it to Liverpool. Hence, the American farmer must always lay down his bushel of wheat at Liverpool for an ounce of silver bullion. If this ounce is worth but eighty-five cents in gold, then all the farmer can get in gold is eighty-five cents less the cost of transporting the wheat to Liverpool."

This statement calls to mind the remark made by a naturalist after reading in an encyclopedia the definition of lobster as "a little red fish that moves sideways." "The definition," said he, "is very good, excepting that the lobster is not a fish, is not red, nor does it move sideways."

This ounce-of-silver-per-bushel-of-wheat argument may be very pretty, but it is a ridiculous fallacy. It was evolved at a time when a coincidence of prices between wheat and silver gave it temporary plausibility. Over and over again, in one form or another, it has been used regardless of facts. Even at the very time within two months when an ounce of silver would buy less than a half bushel of wheat in Liverpool, and the American farmer could lay down his bushel of wheat there and get nearly two ounces of silver bullion plus the cost of transportation, this out-of-date fallacy was still floating around with other like political flotsam and jetsam.

In the following table of prices for a half century the second column shows the yearly average price of silver a fine ounce in London; the third column shows the yearly average price a bushel of wheat in England, omitting fractions of a cent; and the fourth column shows the yearly average gold price of wheat a bushel in Chicago:

Year	Silver.	Wheat Eng-land.	Wheat Chicago.	Year	Silver.	Wheat Eng-land.	Wheat Chicago.
1847	1.308	\$2 12		1872	1.322	\$1.73	\$1.11
1848	1.304	1.53	\$ 72	1873	1.298	1.78	1.03
1849	1.309	1.34	57	1874	1.278	1.69	98
1850	1.316	1.22	64	1875	1.246	1.37	86
1851	1.337	1.16	50	1876	1.156	1.40	92
1852	1.326	1.23	41	1877	1.201	1.72	1.21
1853	1.348	1.61	75	1878	1.152	1.41	95
1854	1.348	2.20	95	1879	1.123	1.33	99
1855	1.344	2.26	1.34	1880	1.145	1.34	1.05
1856	1.344	2.10	1.13	1881	1.138	1.37	1.15
1857	1.353	1.71	93	1882	1.136	1.36	1.18
1858	1.344	1.34	62	1883	1.110	1.26	1.02
1859	1.360	1.32	82	1884	1.113	1.08	83
1860	1.352	1.61	92	1885	1.0645	99	88
1861	1.333	1.68	73	1886	.9946	94	76
1862	1.346	1.68	67	1887	.97823	98	75
1863	1.345	1.35	69	1888	.93974	96	88
1864	1.345	1.22	74	1889	.93512	90	86
1865	1.298	1.27	72	1890	1.046 3/4	76	75
1866	1.330	1.51	94	1891	.98782	1.12	96
1867	1.328	1.95	1.45	1892	.87106	92	78
1868	1.326	1.93	1.23	1893	.78031	80	68
1869	1.325	1.46	84	1894	.63479	69	57
1870	1.328	1.42	84	1895	.654	70	62
1871	1.326	1.72	1.09	1896	.682	79	67

During the one hundred years ending with 1896 wheat in England has had many ups and downs, with yearly average price moving irregularly between such extremes as \$3.84 a bushel in 1812 and 69 cents in 1894. During the same period the yearly average price of silver an ounce varied irregularly between the extremes of \$1.36 and 63 cents; and the purchasing power of silver as to wheat varied from an ounce for one third of a bushel to an ounce for one and one sixth bushels. Only a dozen times in a hundred did the yearly average prices of wheat a bushel and silver an ounce come within five cents of each other.

Now look at this short table of New York prices of silver an ounce and wheat a bushel:

	Silver.	Wheat.
1896, Sept. 1.....	\$.67	\$.67
1897, Sept. 1.....	.51	1.03

In twelve months, by the fall of one and the rise of the other, their exchange ratio doubled.

1896, Sept. 1.....one ounce of silver for a bushel of wheat
1897, Sept. 1.....two ounces of silver for a bushel of wheat

"Nature seems to be the head and front of the anti-silver conspiracy."

Much misinformation is also yet afloat about India wheat crops, prices and exports. Exports of wheat from India to Europe began shortly after the opening of the Suez canal in 1869. They gradually increased, with ups and downs, to 41,560,000 bushels in 1887. Since then they have decreased to 23,000,000 bushels in 1892, 10,000,000 bushels in 1894, to zero at the present time, and a promise of 5,000,000 bushels next year. The wheat production of India has declined irregularly from nearly 300,000,000 bushels in 1885 to 200,000,000 bushels in 1896. Nor have prices of wheat in India, as frequently asserted, remained stationary or uniform in silver, or in anything else, but there have been wide fluctuations. From 1875 to 1879 the price of wheat in silver doubled. Wheat production and prices in India are subject to the same influences and changes that they are in other parts of the world. Instead of becoming a strong competitor of the United States in wheat production India has been declining for a period of ten years. During the past five years exportation of wheat from India has been an insignificant feature in the wheat trade of the world. The bulk of the stuff one now reads and hears about India wheat is ten years behind the times.

WITH THE VANGUARD

THIS year has become a notable one for lowering the world's track records. The fastest mile in harness against time, the fastest in a race and the fastest by a double team have all been made this season by famous pacers. The first two achievements have been mentioned in former numbers; the third was at the Belmont driving-park, Philadelphia, September 22d, when John R. Gentry and Robert J., hitched together, lowered the double-team record for a mile to 2:09.

The world's pacing record has been broken the second time this season. On the Illinois state fair-grounds, October 1st, Star Pointer, in a match race with Joe Patchen, broke his former record by a half second, making the mile in 2:00½.

SPEAKING of the striking improvement in productive industry, "Dun's Review," under date of October 21, says:

"All industries are pushed to increased working force with an increase in the rate of wages by the growing demand. This is largely for replenishment of stocks, but dispatches show that the retail trade at nearly all northern points continues to expand, and dealers well know that increase of working force and wages insures a larger distribution of goods. Anxious appeals for speedy deliveries disclose more rapid distribution already than had been expected, and in textile manufactures the works are hindered from taking as liberal orders as they might by doubts about future prices."

THE seventeenth meeting of the Farmers' National Congress was recently held at St. Paul, Minnesota. In the annual address at the opening session President B. F. Clayton said in part:

"The farmer of this generation is confronted by problems more serious, and requiring a more trained mind to solve, than were presented to the generation which cut off the primeval forest and planted the virgin soil; but he holds in his hands a key to these problems and the

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NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

In Fly-time. During summer and fall we cannot expect our cows to give a full flow of milk, and otherwise keep in best condition, unless we protect them from the torment and constant annoyance and worry inflicted upon them by the millions of flies. Every dairyman knows this, and yet in spite of this knowledge, and notwithstanding all the warnings and the fly remedies published in the press, the great majority of cow-owners utterly fail to make any provisions for the protection of their valuable animals, and thus allow the latter to suffer untold torments and their own pockets to suffer great loss. As I have said before, this subject is worthy of a good deal of attention and effort. I make many a trip to my cows out in the pasture-field just for the sake of convincing myself that they are comfortable; and if I have the least doubt that they were properly seen to before being taken out to the field, I take that little tin sprayer (mentioned and illustrated in an earlier issue) half filled with my fly-mixture along with me, and in a few minutes' time I have made the applications, and can see my stock free from flies. And then I can enjoy the sight of the animals standing or grazing quietly, contentedly, and happy.

The Fly-mixtures. It is by no means necessary to pay out much money for patented or proprietary fly-repellers. Some very cheap home-made mixtures will do just as well as the best of those offered ready made at considerable cost. Ordinary cheap-grade kerosene will answer the purpose, but it is not as lasting in its effects as those containing some sort of fly-repelling oil. Fish-oil, with a little crude carbolic acid, is sometimes recommended, and although it is a very cheap material, I find that it is hard to find, even in a city as large as Buffalo, New York. A writer in the "Rural New-Yorker" gives the following as an effective mixture, of his own get-up: "For twelve cows," he says, "I mix thoroughly five pounds of the cheapest grease available with one pint of coal-tar, one ounce of carbolic crystals and one half pint of kerosene. This year I have been using another mixture with the very best of

satisfaction and success. The chief ingredient is oil of tar of a cheap grade. This I buy in a Buffalo wholesale house, put up in gallon stone jugs, at fifty to seventy-five cents a gallon. Crude carbolic acid is usually kept on hand on the premises, anyway, and I add some to the oil of tar, although I doubt whether it is strictly necessary. Possibly the oil of tar and kerosene mixture alone is fully as effective as anything else. I mix the materials about as fast as I want to use them, and I am not very particular about the exact proportions, either. I fill a quart bottle one half to two thirds full of oil of tar, then fill it up (not quite full) with kerosene, and add a small quantity (say a small tablespoonful) of crude carbolic acid, and mix the whole well by shaking. This mixture is sprayed all over the body of each cow by means of the twenty-five-cent tin sprayer aforementioned. It is very quickly done, and very effective. Where large herds are kept, it would of course be more expeditious to have either a knapsack or a barrel sprayer loaded with kerosene emulsion ready for use when the cows are turned out in the morning, and apply the fly killer and repeller in this way. I would prefer my mixture even then for its lasting effects. One application would probably serve as a protector for at least two days, in some measure. Yet as the spraying by means of the tin blower is so easily and quickly done, and the material is so cheap, I can see no reason why we should not use it once a day, and make the protection so much more perfect and complete."

Raising Turkeys. The turkey is a most interesting bird, and truly a native American, too. Years ago I used to raise many of them, and took a great fancy to them. But the bird has great roaming proclivities, and often will wander off great distances. So if you have near neighbors, and wish to be on good terms with them, it is not always wise to keep many turkeys. It was this consideration which induced me to let turkeys alone for some years. Last spring, however, I could not resist the temptation to try it once more with at least a few birds. I had tried (in 1896) to secure one or more full-blood Bronze hens and a half-wild gobbler, but had failed to get them. I secured some eggs, and I hatched them under hens. Usually turkey eggs hatch quite easily, simply because the parent birds are less pampered than our common fowls are. They have more exercise, suffer more exposure, more hardships, and are less liable to overdo in eating or to get excessively fat. But the little turks have the reputation of being tender. This, however, is true only in so far as they cannot stand being fed on unsuitable food or being exposed to an excess of dampness. I put the little turkey chicks in my brooder, where they were kept with ordinary chicks, and with ducklings, too, and where they thrived wonderfully. Now as to the food. Most farmers and farmers' wives try to bring up all their young fowls on corn-meal. No wonder the little things soon die. Corn-meal is the curse of chickendom. It is an unbalanced and an entirely unsuitable food. If you want to know what is the natural food of the little turks, ask them. Give them a variety, and then see what they will pick up. Give them corn-meal or oatmeal (a much better food), or millet-seed or bread soaked in milk, etc., and you will find that the chicks mince about, and for a few days will hardly eat anything. Then shear off some of the tops of your Pritzaker onion seedlings from the seed-bed, and cut them into little bits of pieces—say one eighth of an inch long—and you will find that your little turks only a day or so from the shell will pick up these bits of onion-tops and eat them about as fast as a hen will pick up corn. It seems a natural food. With it they will, for a variety, eat a little stale bread moistened with milk and crumbled up fine, or a little of the cake that I usually feed to my little chicks and ducklings (bran, corn-meal, dried blood, etc., made into a soft dough with milk, and then baked, afterward moistened with milk). A large proportion of the little turks' food, however, should always consist of green stuff—onion-tops, young clover-leaves, little tender blades of grass, etc.—chopped up fine. Hard-boiled egg may be given sparingly. And all the food given to little turkey chicks right along, and until they are well grown up, should be perfectly sweet. The swill-barrel and stuff taken out of it have killed a num-

ber of them for me. It is not an easy matter, in spring and summer, to keep the accumulations in the swill-barrel sweet. Our kitchen help sometimes threw the dry and waste bread into the swill, and in some instances I fished it out again and gave it to chicks and small turks. It invariably had a bad effect on the latter, and killed a number of them outright. But after the turk has reached some size he acquires great hardihood and resistance, and his appetite grows with his body. Altogether, as I have said, the bird is very interesting and an interesting study. I hope to be able to procure this fall the stock I want; namely, a half-blood wild gobbler mated with some full-blood Bronze hens.

Dry Corn Fodder and Silage. There can be little doubt concerning the great value of properly made silage for milk-cows. But we who have only a limited number of cows (less than five) do not always see our way clear of having and filling a silo for our few animals. I yet prefer to use my corn fodder in the old-fashioned way, but I am trying to take the best care of it; that is, let it get cured in the field and then take it under shelter without delay. When one has plenty of barn-room, fodder can thus be saved in good condition, and this year we have enough of it to last us for feeding cattle, and horses, too, until spring. The New Jersey experiment station has made some experiments to determine the relative cost and feeding value of the dry matter of dried corn fodder and of silage, and to me and to many others (situated as I am) the subject must be of considerable interest. The New Jersey station finds: "First, that the cost of harvesting, storing and preparing the dry matter contained in corn was greater in the form of silage than in the form of dried fodder. Second, that the changes that occur in the composition of silage were not such as to decrease its feeding value in a greater degree than those which occur in the process of curing corn fodder. Third, that for milk and butter production the feeding value of the dry matter of the silage was greater than that of dried fodder-corn. The yield of milk was 12.8 per cent greater, and the yield of fat 10.4 per cent greater. Fourth, that at one cent a pound for the milk produced, the value of the corn crop was nearly \$10 an acre greater when fed in the form of silage rather than in the form of dried fodder."

In other words, the station proves to us that silage gives far better results, in a general way, than the dried fodder; but it does so, also, at an increased cost. Whether the increased value of the corn in the form of silage over that of the dry-cured fodder overbalances the increased cost of making silage over the dry-curing process depends on individual conditions, especially the scale of the operations. While I am fully convinced that the modern professional dairymen should and must make use of the silage system, I still feel that my own small-scale operations do not warrant me in expending money for building a silo and making my few acres of corn into silage.

T. GREINER.

SALIENT FARM NOTES.

Cottonwood. Only a very few years ago the cottonwood was looked upon by manufacturers as a timber utterly unfit for any purpose, and it is so regarded by thousands of farmers to-day, and they grub it out wherever they find it. It will surprise many of these men to learn that this same despised cottonwood is coming into great demand, and millions of feet of it are being cut into material for packing-boxes, household furniture and the interior finishing of fine houses. For this latter purpose it rivals the famous satinwood, and being so much cheaper, will be substituted for it nine times in ten, but, of course, under another name.

The art of seasoning woods has reached such perfection that cottonwood lumber is being largely used for wagon-boxes, and is giving the best of satisfaction. After being seasoned by the new process it is covered with a coating of pigments that will resist the action of the sun and rain a long time, and if the wagon is hosed as it should be, the box will last as long as one made of pine.

For many purposes cottonwood is cut in thin veneers and several of these are glued

on one side, laid upon each other so that the grain crosses, and then put under a pressure of forty tons for a few hours. The result is a board that is perfectly solid, will not crack or warp, and cannot be split with an ax. These boards have a thin veneer of fine oak, walnut or other hard wood glued on one surface under heavy pressure, and we have the finest "oak," "maple" or "walnut" material for furniture or inside house-finishing in the world. When properly seasoned and polished the surface of cottonwood presents a fine, smooth, sheeny appearance that is admired by all.

Along the banks of creeks and on land subject to brief overflows, as well as on rough or marshy tracts unfit for anything else, the cottonwood grows rapidly and to perfection. It makes a tolerably fair shade-tree, and it has been highly recommended for wind-breaks on the prairies, chiefly because of its rapid growth and hardiness; but it is of little value for fuel. The wood is very light when seasoned, and burns rapidly, but gives out little heat. Since it is now taking the place of other slow-growing woods for many uses it will have a new value, and I would advise farmers who have it growing in rough corners and marshy spots not to waste it.

I think the time is rapidly approaching when the exterior or exposed portion of farm-houses, cottages, barns and other buildings will be of iron, while the frame and inner parts will be composed of some of the woods we have hitherto considered next to worthless. Cottonwood, poplar and some other soft woods are, when properly seasoned, quite as enduring when protected from the weather as many of the hard woods, while they are very much cheaper, and can be grown in one fourth of the time. I have seen rafters made from soft-maple poles do effective service over twenty years, and when taken down appeared to be good for fifty years more.

Soft Maple. A farmer friend of mine was once setting out a lot of soft-maple seedlings when a neighbor came along and made sport of him.

"If you feel that you must set out trees, why don't you set oak, ash or walnut?" he asked.

"Well," replied my friend, "I have planted about a thousand of the trees you mention, but I shall need a great many poles for rafters, studding, stall divisions, top of mangers, etc., and these maples will attain to a size suitable for such purpose before the harder woods get fairly started, and that's why I am planting them."

That man has used nearly two thousand maple poles in the various buildings he has erected on the farm, and they have proved quite as efficient in all inside work as pine lumber of equal dimensions; and as they grew on rough land that was practically useless for any other purpose they cost him next to nothing.

Fence-post Timber. When a farmer plants a forest tree his first thought is, "Will it make a good fence-post, and how soon?" Fence-posts are needed on every farm, and as the natural forests of oak, which have heretofore supplied us with posts, are rapidly disappearing, it would seem to be good policy on the part of every landowner to prepare for the not distant day when he will have to provide his own posts. Among the rapid-growing trees *Catalpa speciosa* and black locust make posts that resist decay fairly well. The locust is often destroyed by borers before it reaches a size large enough for posts, but the catalpa is not troubled by insect pests. Fifteen years ago I set out about three hundred catalpa seedlings, and three years ago the present owner of the land cut most of them down. Many of them were eight and ten inches in diameter and made two good posts. I found that it was best to plant the seed where the trees are wanted, because the seedlings have an immense top root which must be cut when they are transplanted, and this checks the growth of the tree and causes it to branch out and acquire a stunted appearance. Some of my seedlings attained a height of six feet the first year, and ten feet in two years when not moved. Those transplanted were four years in reaching a height of ten feet. In this case the seed was planted in loose, loamy soil early in November.

FRED GRUNDY.

Our Farm.

FARM THEORY AND PRACTICE.

WAITING ON THE WEATHER.—The very dry weather of August and September has impressed me anew with the unwisdom of waiting upon the weather in preparing land for planting, if the work can be made to go at all. During seasonable weather we get the impression that such weather will continue, and in midsummer, when the ground gets a little hard for breaking, the inclination is to wait for the expected rain to soften it. When the time of year arrives for certain work, the only safe thing to do is to push that work, if it be possible, excepting, of course, the matter of sown seeds, which may have to wait for moisture. With three strong horses to the breaking-plow most hard ground can be broken. If the roller and modern harrow are used the same day, a considerable amount of pulverization can be secured. It is not easy work on teams, and a soaking rain would make it much easier, but the rain often fails us, and it pays to have the pluck to go ahead at the right time. A subsequent working with a disk or cut-away, followed by a rolling, does far more good in making a seed-bed than appears on the surface of the ground. The dry soil that is fine sifts down between the clods to the bottom of the furrow, and that is the place it is most needed. If there must be clods, the place for them is at the surface. Dry ground packs better than is apparent, and moisture will rise from beneath into land treated in this way. Such work not only saves time, when rain comes and work pushes, but it makes seeding possible and safe with only a limited rainfall, as there is moisture below to help out the supply and there is far less waste of the rain that falls. The man who can always push his work, and not let his work push him, is surest of winning. The secret is to push the work as early as is practicable, and to do no waiting on the weather except when the condition of the soil or the success of the crop absolutely demands it. Keep working at the seed-bed even if it is so dry that the working makes little show at the surface.

HIGH-PRICED PHOSPHORIC ACID.—An immense amount of acid rock is used upon the wheat-lands of this country. It is sold under many names, as some farmers entertain a prejudice against the word "rock," but "rock" it is, as a study of the analysis shows, and I cannot see that the plant-food in the fertilizer—the phosphoric acid that is wanted—is any the worse for being found in rock. Dealers may call the fertilizer "bone;" but even if it were it would be no more valuable if it contained only what the analysis shows—phosphoric acid—as this element in rock is just as effective, pound for pound, as when in bone, and possibly more so. The analysis shows that the farmer is buying phosphoric acid, and that only, and if he gets results and does safe farming by using this one element to free others in the soil, and to secure heavy sods for plowing under, why care what the source of the element may be? He may not be doing safe farming by the use of this one element alone, but my point is that as he is paying for only phosphoric acid, he need not care that it comes to him in acid rock, as it does. But he should be interested in the cost a pound to him of this phosphoric acid. The amount of it—the number of pounds of it—in a ton determines its value, and the amount is indicated by the figures on the bag stating the percentage. A ton of low-grade (called "cheap") rock, having ten per cent available phosphoric acid, gives the buyer 200 pounds of the plant-food he is after. A ton of better-grade rock, containing fifteen per cent available phosphoric acid, gives the buyer 300 pounds of plant-food. If he can buy the latter for \$15 a ton, the former should cost him only \$10. But the consumer in the central states should see that the plant-food in the low-grade fertilizer must cost him more a pound than that in the higher grade, because he is paying freight and agents' charges on a larger proportion of worthless material. Railroads and agents get the same pay for their work of delivering to the user a ton of the low grade as one of the higher grade. One should get the richest acid phosphate possible, using a correspondingly less amount an acre, as this makes the application on

an acre the least costly. Low-grade phosphates mean a high price a pound for the plant-food obtained.

STORING SWEET POTATOES.—Farmers near good markets, who have suitable soil for sweet potatoes, can usually make good money by storing some sweets for the winter trade. There is no great trick about keeping them through the winter when one has sufficient quantity. A limited amount is difficult to keep, as the moisture must be absorbed by some artificial means, and the temperature must be so regulated that little moisture forms during changes in the outside weather. But with a large quantity conditions are different. The first thing sought after storing is a high heat, and then there is profuse sweating and evaporation of the moisture. The place of storage should be warm, dry and well ventilated. Some house cellars are all right for the purpose, but the storing is not all right for the people living in the house, unless the ceiling is cemented and there is no inside door opening into the dwelling. The moisture and odor are certainly most unhealthy. Barn cellars are much more desirable. The cellar-room should be nearly filled with the potatoes, so that the heat from the latter may control the temperature. If the room is too large, a division may be made by a double plank wall with sawdust between. The potatoes should be gathered in boxes with the least possible bruising, and drawn direct from the field to the cellar, where they should be stored in bins having a capacity of one hundred bushels. The bins are made with a single thickness of boards, and serve to prevent needless bruising in storing and removing the potatoes, and afford some ventilation from the floor to the top of the bins. The potatoes should be stored about five feet deep. Within a few days after filling the cellar the heat in the potatoes rises to a high point, and the sweating is so profuse that water runs on the ceiling and walls, and the novice begins to fear that the potatoes are ruined. But it is this heat that saves the crop. To secure it, it is often best to cover the tops of the bins with carpets for a few days. After the high temperature is secured, remove the covering at once and ventilate as well as possible. Within a few weeks the temperature subsides, and then the chief point is to maintain an even temperature above fifty degrees. The potatoes will provide this themselves until the weather gets very cold. Then cover with forest-leaves or other such material. Do not let outside air into cellar during middle of day in winter to warm up the potatoes, as this will make more sweat and rot. Heat with lamps if weather is excessively cold.

DAVID.

DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH.

The above phrase is meant to be suggestive. That readers shall receive truths shining and precious is the writer's sincere aim. A communication from J. E. Rue, of North Carolina, asks me to "polish" one of my "diamonds" exhibited in FARM AND FIRESIDE of September 1st. He says that the promised suggestion is not there given. If readers will turn to the above article they will find suggested a plan to realize from one hundred to four hundred bushels of corn an acre on very ordinary land. As there suggested, one thousand watermelons can be raised on the acre easily. The melons will readily sell for ten cents apiece. Therefore, the crop on one acre will bring one hundred dollars. Corn can be bought for thirty cents a bushel. The one hundred dollars received from the melons will therefore get upward of three hundred bushels of corn. At the price potatoes will bring this fall, they will bring the raiser the neat sum of one hundred dollars an acre. Still another, and that for the present will suffice. Ginseng from the seed will do to market in five years from planting. When sold, the crop from one acre will bring ten thousand dollars, or two thousand a year. This last suggestion shows very near seven thousand bushels of corn an acre for each year. Or, to "polish" the "diamond" so it can be seen, the ginseng will bring, on an average, two thousand dollars a year. Corn bought with this money, at thirty cents a bushel, amounts to six thousand six hundred and sixty-six bushels. Should corn be worth one dollar, then two thousand bushels would be the crop. Now, does J. E. Rue see the "diamonds?"

The foregoing figures are not imaginary; they are based on actual facts. That the FARM AND FIRESIDE readers may have the benefit of these facts is good reason for offering "Diamonds in the Rough"—sparkling, precious truths, clothed though they be in homely language.

I can handle a hoe better than I can a pen, but if would-be aspirants, after success from digging in the soil, wish to know how to "make the mare go," the secret is simple—plenty of "elbow grease," intelligently sweated on, and correct varieties. Whoever wants a watermelon of fair size and quality, that will yield the largest number to the area planted, should get Sweet Heart. For melons of largest size, with fair quality and fair yield, get Duke Jones. For finest quality, with fair size and yield, select Seminole and Kluckley's Sweet. For the best-yielding potato the world has ever produced, plant Sand Lake. If the reader would rather take no seemingly unnecessary risks—would rather raise corn direct, which most farmers must do, to be sure—why, then, plant Iowa Silver Mine, Prehistoric or Dungan's White Prolific. These varieties are all here to stay. Just a small amount invested in them by way of test will prove to any one their superiority to ordinary kinds.

Now, a few sentences in regard to ginseng, as a finishing touch to this now too lengthy paragraph. The demand for ginseng is practically unlimited. When once planted, and established under proper conditions, the plant will take care of itself, although it will respond to generous treatment. The only wonder to me is that more farmers don't enter this sure road to competence. With the books on ginseng culture, advertised in all our leading agricultural papers, any one can become an expert as a ginseng culturist, and at a small outlay, and in five or ten years from now be independent. My article preceding this was bound up with a favorite verse from Longfellow. Here is the next verse following the one at the end of my preceding article:

Footprints which perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's troubled main,
Some forlorn, heartbroken brother,
Seeing, may take hope again.

JEFFERSON D. CHEELY.

WASTE ON THE FARM.

The farm cannot be made to pay until the items of waste are enumerated and taken from the account-book. In the western states water is wasted in irrigation, while in the East fertility is lost because of no drainage. The soil frequently wastes away from improper tillage or careless treatment. Grain and animal food are wasted through feeding or stacking. Fruits waste because the trees are neglected or poor judgment is used in picking and packing. In whatever field or building waste is discovered, immediate steps should be taken to check the drain and prevent a recurrence.

The most prolific source of loss that has come under my observation is the annual destruction of farm machinery. In a ride of twenty miles through the grain-fields of Utah I counted thirteen harvesters and mowing-machines left where last used, and subjected to all the dangers of midwinter. The same story may be told of some of the eastern states I have visited. Every piece of farm machinery represents an outlay of cash or a note equivalent. What would a banker think of a farmer leaving the money he had loaned him lying in a ditch or on a stump in the corn-field all winter? That is just what many of our farmers are doing every month in the year—leaving money scattered about, to be destroyed by the frosts of winter or the rains of summer.

Another place where waste is noticed on the farm is in the stack-yard. From my house I have looked out upon a straw-stack and counted not less than forty dung-hill chickens scratching away at the chaff in quest of barley. The stack had been standing for four months, and every day during that time the fowls dug through the snow and sleet to get into the barley chaff. The threshing was done by the best machine in our section of country, but it is a poor testimonial to any thresherman to see his straw-stack covered with fowls every day for four months. Surely, there is an enormous waste from the riddles and cylinder of a machine that leaves a green stack matted together with roots, or a sheltered straw-pile the

rendezvous of scratching fowls. It is poor economy to grow a good crop of grain, harvest it properly and in season, and then have all the profit wasted by worthless threshers.

Again, I notice a waste in feeding the animals collected in the corral or feed-pens. This loss, however, is not from giving the animals too much, but the feeding of too small rations at unusual times. Stock of all kinds should be fed plenty and at regular hours every day. One ton of feed, given in sufficient quantities, and fed with regularity daily, will prove more beneficial than two tons of the same feed doled out occasionally. It is a mistake to feed sparingly, especially in winter. If horses, sheep or cattle are worth keeping at all they are surely entitled to good daily rations of wholesome food. It is cheaper to waste a little feed in keeping the boxes and stalls filled than to waste flesh by careless feeding or intentional starvation.

JOEL SHOMAKER.

A CORNER IN SHRUBS.

In the planting of shrubbery on the lawn the effect when the shrubs reach maturity depends largely on their arrangement. The old idea of dotting a shrub here and there over the lawn is not in harmony with the principles of good taste or landscape gardening. There should at all times be a wide expanse of lawn which can be kept well mowed without being obliged to perform the laborious task of using hand labor around shrubs.

On grounds of ordinary dimensions a clump of shrubbery in the corner, varied in size by the size of the grounds, some climbing vines along the porch, two or three ornamental trees of a low-growing habit, and if a driveway, a border of low-growing plants, hardy perennials or roses is all the ornamentation required.

As a rule, it is a mistake to plant evergreens on grounds of ordinary dimensions, unless we confine ourselves to dwarf sorts such as *Thuya Hovey* (Hovey's golden arbor-vitae).

For the shrub corner the taller-growing varieties should be next to the street or road, and then slope gradually toward the lawn. For the taller sorts use the cross-growing varieties of barberry, *Euonymus*, *forsythias*, *Weigelia* and the like, grading to the lawn with *Deutzia*, *Exochorda grandiflora*, *Viburnum plicatum*, *Cornus mascula* and *Hydrangea paniculata*, the latter making a striking shrub for the edge nearest the lawn. If desired, the effect may be heightened by a border of soft flowering plants like geraniums, tuberous begonias, or even the cheaper dwarf nasturtiums; though if the entire corner is to consist of hardy kinds, the border should be some hardy perennials like delphiniums or dwarf perennial phlox, which will make a beautiful display and a decided contrast in foliage and blossom to the foliage and blossoms of the shrubs.

In the arrangement of grounds surrounding the house always bear in mind that a wide expanse of lawn well kept is in itself quite as attractive as flowering shrubs or plants, and no effort should be spared to obtain a perfect lawn. For the best effects avoid the promiscuous planting of vivid-hued bedding-plants; if such are desired, always mass them in corners by themselves, or with others which are harmonious, and place them at one side with a background of green. The effect of both flowers and lawn will be enhanced by such an arrangement.

GEO. R. KNAPP.

Clergyman's Statement

Nerve Strength Gained by Taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

BRIGHTON, IOWA.—Rev. Bernard M. Shulick of this place, owing to weakness of the nerves, was for a time unable to attend to his duties. He makes this statement: "I have suffered for a long time from weak nerves. After I had taken a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla I became quite well again. The weakness of the nerves has now wholly disappeared and I am able to attend to my duties again. I am therefore grateful to Hood's Sarsaparilla and I recommend it to everyone who suffers from weak nerves."

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

STRAWBERRY-GROWING.—My notes on strawberries in FARM AND FIRESIDE of September 1st have brought me a great number of inquiries, showing that the subject is one of especial interest to the rural public. And this is as it should be, for the strawberry is indeed the "Queen of Fruits," and just the one most convenient for average people to grow; not alone because it requires the least room and the least time to come into fruiting, but also because it is about the most valuable, and often the costliest, of our small fruits. Consumers are often asked to pay ten cents and more a quart for an ordinary quality of strawberries, and at this price few families can afford to buy a full supply; that is, all that the members of the family—especially the younger ones—would eat if they had free access to them; while a very few square rods of suitable (that is, properly drained and well enriched) ground, can be made to produce all this full supply. So, whoever has a little tillable land should make it a point to raise what strawberries he may want. A grape-vine or two will be the next thing in order, while the asparagus-bed is the foremost thing—the starting-point—for a vegetable garden.

THE SPLENDID STRAWBERRY.—Several readers ask me whether the Splendid is a perfect berry, and where plants can be procured. Yes, the Splendid is bisexual; you can plant it alone by itself, and it will bear fruit abundantly just the same. I received my first supply of plants from L. J. Farmer, the strawberry-farmer of Pulaski, N. Y., but I am unacquainted with the origin and history of the berry. Possibly other plantmen are offering plants of the Splendid, and it can be had at little if anything above the prices usually asked for the ordinary varieties. As I said before, its plant-making propensities are immense.

THE MEXICAN WONDER.—Most of the inquiries received, however, relate to the "Mexican" strawberry. A good many of our readers wish to try it. Well, so do I, and I have promptly sent a small amount to Mr. S. L. Watkins, of Grizzly Flats, California, for a dozen plants to try. The price he asked me for plants is surely low enough for such a wonderful thing. Mr. Watkins has since been "roasting" me in a letter sent to the FARM AND FIRESIDE for publication, the same letter appearing in the "California Fruit Grower," published in San Francisco, Cal., of September 18th. I do wish that this Mexican strawberry will really turn out the wonderful fruit which Mr. Watkins claims it to be. Just think of it! Plant and fruit perfection itself; young plants need no petting, and generally perfect a heavy crop the first season; will yield fruit for five or six years without renewing; gives heavy crops all through the season in warm climates, and two crops a season in cold climates; berries larger than any other strawberry, a plant averaging two quarts of fruit, and in exceptional cases three and even four quarts; plant itself almost faultless; the berry rich, sweet, aromatic and altogether delicious—a wonderful market berry. My friend, the experienced editor of "New York Farmer," in commenting on the recount of all these good points, calls it an attractive story, and says: "Just how much is romance and how much truth would be hard to tell." Surely the story is attractive, as proven by the many inquiries. If I were satisfied that one half, or even one quarter, of all the good points claimed for the berry were true, I would quickly try to procure at least some hundreds of plants, and set them on my best piece of ground. For surely such a plant would be a wonder indeed, and revolutionize American strawberry culture in a very short time. Indeed, if the berry even half answers the description, its originators or introducers have not made half the fuss over it that it would deserve; and surely the nurserymen of the East cannot be up to the times, or must be unable to know a good thing when they see it. I have lived too long to take the description of fruit novelties as given by nurserymen, etc., at their face value; and it will require more than the testimony of a few firms who sell the plants to convince me that the Mexican strawberry is indeed that phenomenon which Mr. Watkins claims it is. On the

other hand, many of us surely wish to try for ourselves, and this will not be an expensive thing to do when Mr. W. only asks twenty-five cents for a dozen plants. My advice to the general public, as usual in such cases, is to go slow. By all means try a dozen or two of plants, but don't buy them by the hundreds or thousands until you have tried in a smaller way. The berry may be a good thing for all I know; and even if it has only a few of the good points claimed for it, will be worth the trial. But as the berry has been grown for years already, why can't we have the reports on it by experimental stations, by Mr. Van Deman, Mr. Mathew Crawford, Mr. L. J. Farmer, Messrs. Ellwanger and Barry, or Mr. T. F. Lyon, of Michigan, or by others of the many prominent horticulturists and nurserymen in whom we can place absolute confidence? I repeat, why have we, here at the East, heard nothing of this wonder before?

THE CORAL BERRY.—My faith in Mr. Watkins and his Mexican wonder has been considerably shaken by an article appearing on the same page of "California Fruit Grower," in which I found Mr. Watkins' reply to my remarks in FARM AND FIRESIDE. The article tells of the "Coral" berry, and undoubtedly will soon be quoted by agricultural papers all over this fair land. Mr. Watkins gives in it a description of this "most unique and remarkable" Coral berry, which description fits the so-called Japanese wineberry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*) to a dot. Now, those who have tested this fruit know that as a fruit it is as near worthless as it is lawful for a product to be that has been introduced with such great claims of wonderful qualities. This Japanese species of *Rubus* is surely interesting as a botanical curiosity, and possibly as an ornamental shrub, although on our grounds it was neither useful nor ornamental. On the whole, I am more fully convinced of Mr. Watkins' skill and shrewdness as an advertiser than I am of the claimed value of the two fruits, or of the wisdom of accepting and publishing, without additional comment, articles of people who have an ax to grind. The "California Fruit Grower" has been too easy.

ENDIVE FOR SALAD.—Endive is surely worth growing, and far too seldom found in our home gardens. I fully agree with Mr. Fowler, in "New York Farmer," when he says:

"The one conspicuous success in our home garden in this freak season is our endive, which is now forming beautiful heads, some of the best of which are tied up and blanching. With each succeeding season our taste for this salad vegetable grows and we should not like to part with it. Outside of its value as a constituent of salads, it has an esthetic value which must be given full credit. It is so exquisitely beautiful when finely blanched that it idealizes the table and sheds a halo about its neighboring comestibles that has its value to every one with artistic tastes."

A FREAK SEASON.—No doubt the season has been abnormal, especially abnormally late. But as often the case, it promises to last longer than most seasons do; and just at present, nearly October 1st, we have our tomato, melon and Lima bean vines, also egg-plants, peppers, etc., full of good fruit, and we enjoy it hugely, and will continue to do so until frost makes an end to all this glory—we hope not until long in October. The leaves look fresh and green; our flower beds and borders are full of bloom, and altogether country life now seems as full of charms as ever.

T. GREINER.

THE PROPER USE OF EVERGREENS.

The proper handling of evergreen trees is so little understood by the general home-builder that we have not made anything like as general and rational use of these trees as of the deciduous. It is necessary in the first place to get a right understanding of the nature of an evergreen. Its ideal form always approximates a pyramid. A perfect evergreen sits flat and broad on the ground, and rises to an apex. This is the ideal form for strength, and belonged marvelously to that age when the world had no foliage but the evergreen—no deciduous trees of any sort. It was an age of raging storms. To turn an ever-

green to any other shape is, therefore, to go counter to nature. It is especially monstrous to turn such trees into fantastic but wretched imitations of animals, of walls, etc. A hedge should be, after trimming, a complete pyramid, slightly rounded at the top. Care should be taken not to shear the lower limbs so closely in that they will lose their share of light, and die. There should be no hollowing in near the top of a high hedge. There should be neither a flat top nor a perpendicular side; such fantasies will live for awhile, but not many years. The hemlock will bear a more rolling top and generally rounder shape. The Norway spruce will endure more fancy cutting than the hemlock or arbor-vitae.

The time of trimming evergreens should always be in April or May, just after the cold weather, and before new growth. If you try it in the fall you will cut away the most hardened, weather-proof tips that serve as protection for the rest of the tree. Besides, you should cut early enough to let the new growth adorn the trees or hedges in summer. The new growth of a hemlock hedge is in beauty equal to a wall of roses.

If an evergreen is to be moved, do it in the spring; and then never let the roots see the sun or get in the least dried by winds. Puddle them as you set them, and afterward pour water freely about them for at least three months. The least dryness and the tree is lost. When it begins to show that it is drying it is already hopeless. But once well set and the roots started in their new home, you will have no trouble with evergreens. There is more danger from winter sun than from winter cold. You may set it down that where hemlock or arbor-vitae are native they will thrive on your lawn if rightly handled. The handsomest of all our evergreens for lawn or hedge is hemlock, but arbor-vitae is better for wind-breaks.

Evergreens should either stand alone or in careless groups. It is seldom pleasant to see a row, or even two consecutively. A group of three or five is better. An avenue is sometimes fine for a driveway. But the best common use of evergreens is as wind-breaks. If set on a line to break the west or north wind, the consent of both property owners must be secured, as the trees will spread over considerable land. But such a wall when twenty feet high is of great cash value. It will prevent the sweep of winds, and will make a difference of two degrees in the temperature. Hedges along the street I cannot recommend. As fast as possible our highways should become open lawns, neatly kept to the driveway, with flowering shrubs or fruit.

E. P. POWELL.

ORCHARD AND SMALL FRUITS.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Peach Seedlings.—W. H. D., Carthage, N. C. If the pits are planted in the fall they often come up very well, but a much better and the customary way is to mix the pits with sand in small piles on top of the ground, as recently recommended for chestnuts, and cover them with loam. In the spring sift the peach-pits out of the sand; examine each one, and those that have not cracked should be carefully cracked with a hammer. They should then be planted in rows three feet apart, with ten inches between the pits. In this way an even stand is secured, which is exceptional if the seed is sown in autumn.

Twig-blight—To Kill Leaf-eating Worms.—G. O. B., Sand Creek, Wis. Your trees have undoubtedly been injured by what we know as twig-blight. Some varieties are more liable to this injury than others, and in some locations the trees often suffer severely from it, while other locations are exempt. The best treatment is to cut off and bury the injured parts, cutting well below the dead wood. For worms that eat the leaves of apple and most other trees use Paris green and water at the rate of one pound Paris green to one hundred and twenty-five gallons of water. If the worms are on plum-trees, much care will be required in applying Paris green or other arsenical poisons, as plum-leaves are very liable to injury from this material.

Apple-maggot.—H. L. M. The "railroad-worm" that you refer to is known more properly by the name of apple-maggot (*Trypeta pomonella*). It is most common in summer apples, especially in the sweet kinds. The eggs are laid by a fly, which deposits them in the tissue of the apple; these soon hatch into maggots that bore their way through the fruit in every direction. When full-grown they go through their changes below the surface of the ground or in other sheltered spots. There is no known way of destroying the flies and the only remedy is to destroy all the badly infested fruits in such a way as to kill the maggots; as by feeding to hogs, etc. Of course, if the fruit is only slightly infested, it may be marketed, but should be shipped as soon as may be. The northeastern states down to northern New Jersey seem to be the section most commonly infested.

The Wonderful Kava-Kava Shrub

A New Botanical Discovery.—Of Special Interest to Sufferers from Diseases of the Kidneys or Bladder, Rheumatism, etc.—A Blessing to Humanity.

A Free Gift of Great Value to You.

In the last issue readers were informed of the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub, a new botanical product, of wonderful power in curing certain diseases. The Kava-Kava Shrub, or as botanists call it, *Piper Methysticum*, grows on the banks of the Ganges river, East India, and probably was used for centuries by the natives before its extraordinary properties became known to civilization through Christian missionaries. In this respect it resembles the discovery of quinine from the Peruvian bark, made known by the Indians to the early Jesuit missionaries in South America, and by them brought to civilized man. We have previously quoted Dr. Archibald Hodgson, the great authority on these diseases in which he describes the sufferings of both Hindoos and white missionaries and soldiers on these low, marshy swamps and jungles on the Ganges. He says:

"Intense tropical heat and moisture acting upon decaying vegetation render these low grounds on the Ganges most unhealthy districts. Jungle fevers and miasma assail the system. * * * The Blood becomes deranged and the Urine thick and dark-colored. * * * Life hangs in the balance. Then when all modern medical science fails, safety is found in the prompt use of Kava-Kava. A decoction of this wonderful botanical growth relieves the Kidneys, the Urine becomes clearer, the fever abates, and recovery sets in, etc."

Of all diseases that afflict mankind, Diseases of the kidneys are the most fatal and dangerous, and it is but natural that the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub—Nature's Positive Specific Cure for Diseases of the Kidneys—is welcomed as a gift to suffering humanity, and its medical compound, Alkavis, endorsed by the Hospitals and physicians of Europe.

Rev. W. B. Moore, D. D., of Washington, D. C., Editor of the "Religious World," writes of the wonderful curative effects of Alkavis in his own case as it cured him after years of suffering from kidney and bladder disease.

Mr. R. C. Wood, a prominent attorney of Lowell, Indiana, was cured of Rheumatism, Kidney



Mr. R. C. Wood, Lowell, Ind.

and Bladder disease of ten years standing, by Alkavis. Mr. Wood describes himself as being in constant misery, often compelled to rise ten times during the night on account of weakness of the bladder. He was treated by all his home physicians without the least benefit, and finally completely cured in a few weeks by Alkavis. The testimony is undoubted and really wonderful. Many others give similar evidence.

Mrs. James Young, of Kent, Ohio, writes that she had tried six doctors in vain, that she was about to give up in despair, when she found Alkavis, and was promptly cured of Kidney disease, and restored to health. Mrs. Alice Evans of Baltimore, Md., Mrs. Mary A. Layman, of Neel, West Va., twenty years a sufferer; Mrs. Sarah Vunk, Edinboro, Pa.; Mrs. L. E. Copeland, Elk River, Minn.; and many other ladies join in testifying to the wonderful curative powers of Alkavis, in various forms of Kidney and allied diseases, and other troublesome afflictions peculiar to womanhood.



Mrs. James Young, Kent, O.

Many doctors also testify to the powers of Alkavis in curing almost hopeless cases. Among these none have greater weight than Dr. A. R. Knapp, of Leoti, Kansas, and Dr. Anderson, of Carthage, Mo., whose testimony is particularly valuable from the fact of their great experience in these diseases. Mr. A. S. Colburn, of Waltham, Mass., aged 78, and an intense sufferer for five years, was cured by Alkavis.

The following letter from the well-known minister, Rev. A. C. Darling, of North Constantia, Oswego County, New York, was written after, as he says himself, he had lost confidence in man and medicine, had no sleep or rest, and took Alkavis as a last resort.

North Constantia, Oswego Co., New York, May 20, Church Kidney Cure Company:

Gents:—I have been troubled with kidney and kindred diseases for sixteen years and tried all I could get without relief. Two and a half years ago I was taken with a severe attack of La Grippe, which turned to pneumonia. At that time my Liver, Kidneys, Heart and Urinary Organs all combined in what to me seemed their last attack. My confidence in man and medicine had gone. My hope had vanished and all that was left to me was a dreary life and certain death. At last I heard of Alkavis and as a last resort I commenced taking it. At this time I was using the vessel as often as sixteen times in one night, without sleep or rest. In a short time, to my astonishment, I could sleep all night as soundly as a baby, which I had not done in sixteen years before. What I know it has done for me, I firmly believe it will do for all who will give Alkavis a fair trial. I most gladly recommend Alkavis to all.

(Rev.) A. C. DARLING.

Another most remarkable cure is that of Rev. Thomas Smith, of Cobden, Illinois, who passed nearly one hundred gravel stones under two weeks' use of this great remedy, Alkavis.

The Church Kidney Cure Company, 418 Fourth Avenue, New York City, so far are the only importers of Alkavis, and they are so anxious to prove its great value that they will send a Large Case by mail free to Every Reader of the FARM AND FIRESIDE who is a sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's disease, Rheumatism, Cystitis, Gravel, Female Complaints and Irregularities, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. All readers who are sufferers should send their names and address to the company and receive the Large Case by mail free. To prove its wonderful curative power it is sent to you entirely free.

Our Farm.

PICKED POINTS.

THOSE who are in the habit of reading regularly the veterinary columns of the agricultural papers have noticed that they are much more crowded winters than summers. When live stock get out to grazing in the spring most of their ailments disappear as by magic. The reason is that grass is a balanced ration of itself, and the usual dry feed of winter is not.

Nature requires that our domestic animals have protein and carbohydrates in certain proportions. The proportion varies with the different species of animals and also at different ages. The average proportion required for all animals and at all ages is about one of protein to six of carbohydrates; and the average usually fed to all is about one to nine. We see then that one third more carbohydrates is fed than nature requires.

Now, what is the effect of this faulty feeding? Food cannot be digested and appropriated by the system only in this certain proportion. A surplus of either is ejected from the system as waste matter. In passing through an animal it clogs and irritates the digestive apparatus, weakens the system, and renders it much more liable to the inception of disease. In horses the evil results are often shown by heaves, founder, constipation, lameness and an ill condition generally. In cows by shrinkage of milk, staring coats, udder troubles and a disposition to chew old bones and pieces of any old timber. Cattle fed balanced rations will not do this. Veterinarians call this "a depraved appetite," but it is not. The appetite is natural. The animals are vainly searching for protein to balance the surplus of carbohydrates in their food. Give them enough of this and they will let bones and boards alone.

The reason people do not feed right is generally because they do not know how; and the reason they do not know how is because it is but recently that scientists have ascertained just what food animals require, and the facts have not been given publicity long enough and broad enough for the people generally to acquire the knowledge. As spring is the season to plant crops for winter feeding, it is timely to suggest measures for preparing proper foods for the next winter. First of all, one should learn just what to grow. A great help in this would be to get a bulletin on feeding animals from one's own state experiment station, and also one from the secretary of agriculture, at Washington. As protein is the great thing lacking in feeds, one can learn from these bulletins what plants best adapted to his soil and climate will produce the most of this and the cheapest. Then plant such, and while they are growing study the bulletins and learn how to compound balanced rations; then one can feed intelligently another winter and have the assurance that he is doing the very best for himself and live stock as well.

Milk, milk, milk; drub, drub, drub, and scrub, scrub, scrub, is the fate of dairymen who manufacture their own milk into butter or cheese. Taking it to the factory is bad enough; but this is "piling up the agony" to a ten-story altitude. If a farmer wants to or must keep a dairy, he can make more money and a hundredfold more easily by letting calves draw the milk—veal-farming. It is in personal evidence where a twelve-cow milk-dairymen, who is not noted for giving cows more care than he should, and who found it was not a paying business to sell milk at current rates, abandoned it a year ago, and went into veal-farming. His cows are but a little better than the average of the country, and his feeding and care about as that of the ordinary farmer; and yet he received an income of \$67.50 a cow. Calves are secured of milk-dairymen for "a song" or for nothing, and the milk-dairymen sing the song of good riddance. Cows soon learn to mother strange calves. They are fastened in stanchions where they cannot look around to see who or what is drawing the milk; and it seems to make no difference with them, if the

milk only gets drawn. Who can compute the difference in the labor of the two systems? Veal-farming lets the women of the household entirely out of a vast amount of humdrum drudgery. All dairymen cannot and would not go into veal-farming; but all who make "ten-cent butter" should do so, and cease competing with those who make a good article. The competition of "poor stuff" is what keeps the price of good butter down. The makers of "grocery butter" can well be spared. There is a good opening for them in another line, or for any dairymen who choose to follow it.

DR. GALEN WILSON.

CROPS AND MANURES.

The scientific men say that stock foods suffer very little loss in fertilizer constituents from being passed through the domestic economy of the animal. The composition of manures and crops ought to throw some light on this subject, as it is important for the farmer to know where he stands on the fertilizer question.

The following crops contain fertilizing ingredients a ton:

	Nitrogen.	Potash.	Phosphor-ic Acid.
Oats, whole plant.	11 lbs.	12 lbs.	8 lbs.
Corn	17 lbs.	20 lbs.	8 lbs.
Meadow hay.....	33 lbs.	34 lbs.	9 lbs.
Timothy	44 lbs.	44 lbs.	16 lbs.
Clover	52 lbs.	48 lbs.	14 lbs.

Farm manures show the following pounds a ton:

	Nitrogen.	Potash.	Phosphor-ic Acid.
Cow manure.....	7 lbs.	3 lbs.	8 lbs.
Horse manure.....	11 lbs.	5 lbs.	10 lbs.
Hog manure.....	9 lbs.	4 lbs.	12 lbs.
Stable manure....	10 lbs.	5 lbs.	12 lbs.

To compare these properly they should all be expressed in such quantities that they all contain the same number of pounds of nitrogen, as follows:

	Nitrogen.	Potash.	Phosphor-ic Acid.
Oats	100 lbs.	109 lbs.	73 lbs.
Corn	100 lbs.	117 lbs.	42 lbs.
Meadow hay.....	100 lbs.	103 lbs.	27 lbs.
Timothy	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	36 lbs.
Clover	100 lbs.	92 lbs.	27 lbs.
Cow manure.....	100 lbs.	114 lbs.	43 lbs.
Horse manure....	100 lbs.	91 lbs.	45 lbs.
Hog manure.....	100 lbs.	133 lbs.	44 lbs.
Stable manure....	100 lbs.	120 lbs.	50 lbs.

From these tables it is readily seen that farm manures are well balanced, as they cannot well help being, as they are derived the one from the other. The trouble is that farmers do not use enough of them, and that they do not use them to the best advantage. It would not be wise to use such a highly nitrogenous manure on or after a clover or cow-peas. Such crops can largely supply nitrogen for themselves and succeeding crops. The minerals, however, must be supplied. In many cases one ton of manure can be made equal to two by simply adding the ration of potash and phosphoric acid.

R. GARWOOD.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM OKLAHOMA.—It may be interesting to some to hear from the edge of civilization. I can go seventy-five miles west of my claim and not see a farm-house; twenty miles west of me, on the Cinnamon river, is one of the greatest salt-beds on earth. It is a most beautiful sight in the dry season. Where the main salt-bed is the river is about three miles wide, and looks like a small lake frozen over, and the ice covered with snow. In dry, hot weather the salt will get to be a foot thick, and covers over a thousand acres. It is the best and whitest of salt, with just enough of saltpeter in it to make it valuable as a meat-preserver. The water is so salty that by placing your hand in it, then letting it dry, the hand will be covered with a crust of salt. This is a good cattle country. One ranch southwest of my claim is thirty miles square, all fenced with three wires. Wheat yields from twenty-two to fifty bushels to the acre. Kafir-corn grows to great perfection. We have plenty of water and timber here. East, west and south of us there are vast tracts of the country underlaid with gypsum, and there is some difficulty in procuring good water for domestic purposes. There are many caves in this gypsum country; one near me is called Bat cave. There are thousands of acres of government land here yet untaken, some good and some not so good. Alva is our county-seat. Our county is forty-eight by fifty-eight miles. We are troubled a little yet with cattle-thieves, but about all of them have been shot, as they will not be taken alive. For about seventy miles east of Arkansas City the country is a succession of limestone and flint hills, and suited principally for grazing purposes. There is much fine country along the Verdigris river in Indian Territory, and in Labette and Cherokee counties, Kansas. West of Arkansas City might be called a vast plain. In Smuer county, Kansas, the banner wheat county, I counted forty-nine large ricks of headed

CAMPBELL'S EARLY Seeds Need Not Be Swallowed.

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We PAY FREIGHT BOX and Pack free. PAPER line all boxes. REPLACE free. Give BUYER'S choice; low WHOLESALE prices. orders large or small; 10 trees at 100 rate, 300 at 1000 rate. Guarantee SAFE ARRIVAL, trees TRUE to name, FREE from SAN JOSE scale, and of BEST quality. Guarantee SATISFACTION.—WRITE for lists, photos and FULL particulars of foregoing **Stark 12 CHALLENGE Points.** STARK BROS., Louisiana, Mo., Stark, Mo., Rockport, Ill., Oansville, N.Y.

STARK NURSERY

wheat on one hundred and sixty acres; saw seven steam threshing-machines in sight from one point. All of them had the cyclone stacker attachment. Oh, what a contrast! In my boyhood days we used the old bunt, and raked the straw from the end of the machine by hand. B. T. L. Whitehorse, Okla.

FROM IDAHO.—This is a rolling prairie, bounded on three sides by low ranges of hills, backed by spurs of the Bitter Root mountains, and on the other side stretches away the rough mountainous table-lands of eastern Oregon. The soil is very fertile and is a black loam, excepting the low ground near the center of the prairie, which is a black muck or adobe. Around the foot-hills no finer soil exists anywhere. Camas prairie, as the valley is called, is about twenty miles wide by thirty miles long. There are no streams of any consequence running through it, but Salmon river on the south and the Clearwater on the north are quite large streams. The altitude at this place is about 3,000 feet above sea-level, and the climate is very good; not hot in summer nor too cold in winter. Snow falls from six inches to one foot in depth, and generally remains about two months, though there are about four months of winter weather. There are no severe storms of any kind, and there is always plenty of rain during summer to insure good crops. Cereals of all kinds do well here, and most all kinds of vegetables are grown. Fruits do well where they have been tried, but only a few orchards are in bearing, as this is a comparatively new country, and has heretofore been more generally given to mining and stock-raising than otherwise. The mountains are full of mines, and new mining-camps are springing into existence almost daily, making an excellent market for all kinds of farm products. From present indications less than two years hence there will be a permanent population of fully 20,000 in the camps tributary to the prairie. There is no railroad here, and thus the farmers of the prairie do not have to compete with outside producers and are assured a ready market and good prices. Potatoes bring about \$1.00 a bushel; hay, \$30 a ton; small fruits, from 50 cents to \$1 a gallon, and other farm and garden products proportionately in the mines. In most localities water can be had at from fifteen to thirty feet depth, and it is soft, cold and pure. Wood is abundant and can be had for the cutting. Lumber ranges from about \$7.50 to \$20 a thousand. The mountains are full of small streams that team with trout, and the adjacent woods are full of deer, bear and other game. Homes can be secured here very reasonably. Deeded land \$8 to \$10 an acre, and relinquishments on government land much cheaper. Any one thinking of coming to this country should have enough to maintain himself and family at least one year, without having to depend on his labor. W. T. F. Mt. Idaho, Idaho.

FROM FLORIDA.—The field crops throughout the county are very satisfactory this year. Corn, cotton, sweet potatoes and sugar-cane are all good. There is considerable rice and a large quantity of cigar tobacco in our beautiful Florida. Besides, there is a vast amount of tropical fruits and early vegetables. We have several well-equipped railroads in reach of us, with reasonable freight charges; also steamboat that connects with the New York steamers at Jacksonville. Fine truck-farming lands for sale in our community at the low price of \$2.50 to \$5 an acre—land that would grow tobacco, rice or sugar-cane with very little fertilizer. E. R. C Leno, Clay county, Fla.

FROM KANSAS.—McPherson is one of Kansas' most promising counties. The land is rich and as a rule brings good crops of wheat, corn and oats. Fruit is not raised here extensively. There are not many manufacturing. Farmers have good supplies of hogs, cattle and horses. Creameries are doing a flourishing business all over the county. Wheat this year yielded from 20 to 40 bushels to the acre; oats, from 20 to 50; and the corn crop is very promising. Land sells for \$15 to \$20 an acre. We have nine flour-mills in the county, two colleges and five schools. Windom, Kan. O. S.

FROM MISSOURI.—Since August it has been very dry here, and farmers are feeding their stock the same as in winter. Crops are light. There are a great many poor people here, owing to high rents, poor crops and low prices. Those who cannot patronize the creameries cannot sell their surplus butter at any price. J. P. Appleton City, St. Clair county, Mo.

FOR SALE A good farm in two miles of the city of Talladega. For particulars address S. C. LOKEY, Talladega, Ala.

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200 varieties. Also Grapes, Small Fruits, etc. Best rooted stock. Genuine, cheap. 2 sample currants mailed for 10c. Desc. price list free. LEWIS ROESCH, Fredonia, N. Y.

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to weave your own fence of COILED HARD STEEL SPRING WIRE, 52 inches high, at 25 Cents per Rod. \$20 buys wire for 100 rod fence. Agents Wanted. Catalogue Free. CARLEK Wire Fence Machine Co., Box 28, Mt. Sterling, O.

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SAWS ANY WOOD IN ANY POSITION ON ANY GROUND ANYWHERE.

1 man with a Folding BEATS 2 men with a cross-cut saw. 5 to 9 cords daily is the usual average for one man. This out-saws the machine in 3 positions—sawing a tree down, sawing a log and folded to carry. 14 years steady improvement. Our 1898 model machine saws faster, runs easier & will last longer than ever. Adjusted in a minute to suit a 12-year-old boy or the strongest man. Saws in 9 positions, from 4-in to 5½-ft through. Send for catalog showing latest improvements. First order gets agency. Folding Sawing Machine Co., 64-66 S. Clinton St., Chicago. Mention this paper.

FLORIDA THE LAKE HANCOCK COLONY, Hancock, Polk County, Florida, On main line Plant System Railway.

This tract of 10,000 acres extends from the railroad south to Lake Hancock, one of the most beautiful lakes in Florida, being about five miles long and two miles wide—abounding in choicest fish and the paradise of duck hunters. On each side of a grand boulevard, 130 feet wide, from the depot to Lake Hancock, are farms of twenty acres each, and all the balance of the tract forty acre farms. These lands are beautifully located, being about 200 feet above the sea level and sloping gently south to the Lake. The soil is loamy, and will raise any kind of fruits, grapes, nuts, vegetables, tobacco, berries, as well as oranges, lemons and other semi-tropical fruits. **Town Site.**—Lots one acre each—no less—\$25 each, cash. **Magnolia Ave.**—130 ft. wide—20 acre farms, \$10 to \$20 per acre; 40 acre tracts, \$5 to \$10 per acre; ¼ cash, balance 1, 2 and 3 years. Send for maps and general information. International Homestead Co., 306 Marquette Bldg., Chicago, Ill., or 308 Franklin St., Tampa, Fla.

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THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

AIR-SLAKED LIME AND ROUP.

LATE in the fall the poultryman begins to have trouble with roup and other ailments which are due to rains and dampness, and if roup breaks out in a flock before winter the probability is that it will not disappear before next summer, and one half the fowls will be swept away, as it is contagious. The great difficulty of handling and doctoring the fowls makes any attempt at curing them very expensive. There is one substance which has been found by experiment to destroy the germs of roup—which is air-slaked lime. The advantages of its use is that it is cheap and can be easily applied without handling the birds. To prepare it let the stone-lime slake in the air, and when it is in a fine condition add a pint of crude carbolic acid to a bushel of the fine lime, being careful to intimately mix the two substances. Crude carbolic acid can be purchased at a cost of about fifty cents a gallon, and is equally as good as the refined article for the purpose. Twice a week scatter the air-slaked lime and carbolic acid, after mixing, over the walls, floors, under the roosts, in the nests, and over the yards. First scatter it over the yards; spade or plow them, and then broadcast it over the surface again. If a case of roup appears, then at once remove the fowl and give that yard a double quantity of the mixture of acid and lime. The object should be to destroy the germs of the disease. In winter use wooden

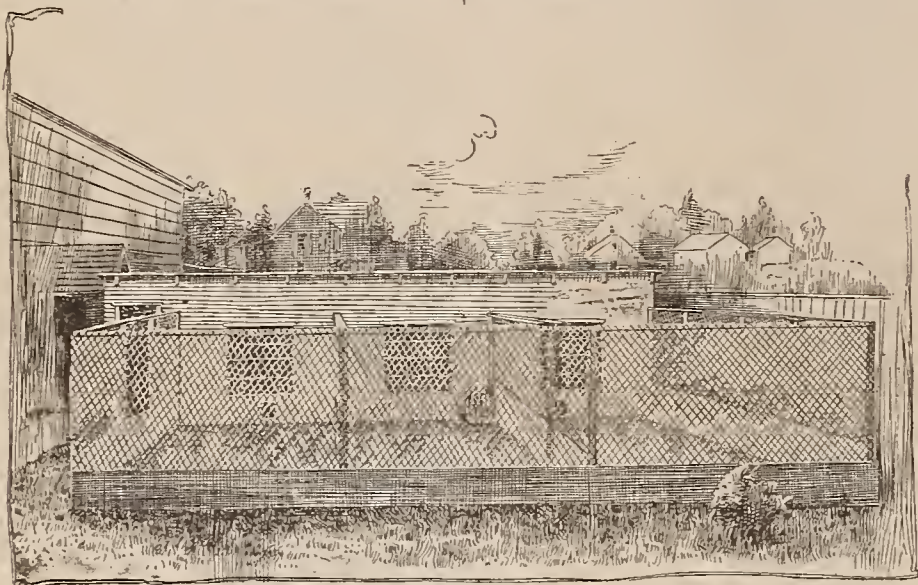
quires no effort on their part. It is not inferred that such a mode of feeding is the best, as the hens should have something more than grain, but it is an excellent way to feed grain. Where one must purchase grain, let it be thrown into cut straw or litter, so that each hen can work and secure a portion.

A REMEDY FOR LICE.

A cheap and easy method of keeping lice out of the nests, and also from the sitting hens, is to place one of the ordinary camphorated balls (such as those displayed in the windows of a drug-store) in each nest. They cost almost nothing. By simply dropping one in each nest the work is done, and a ball will last through the whole of the warm season. Every time a hen goes on the nest she imparts heat to it, and a portion of the camphor odorizes her body and also the materials of the nest; lice giving it a wide berth. One of the balls, if placed in a vial of sweet-oil or linseed-oil, and a few drops applied on the heads of fowls and chicks, or on the shanks or under the wings, will also prove serviceable, preventing scaly-legs, and destroying the large lice. For chicks and young turkeys use only one or two drops of the mixture, as grease of any kind is injurious to chicks. If preferred, a mixture may be prepared by using one part lard-oil, one part linseed-oil, a few grains of camphor and two or three drops of oil of sassafras, shaking the mixture well before using.

HOUSE FOR THREE FLOCKS.

The illustration is one showing the arrangement of his breeding-yards, by a breeder at Grand Rapids, Mich. The house may be ten by forty-five feet, mak-



HOUSE FOR THREE FLOCKS.

troughs, and clean them every day, as disease is usually established through the drinking-water. Have a hospital, which should be kept clean and disinfected in the same manner, to which sick birds should be removed. A pinch of chlorate of potash should be sprinkled down the throat of the sick fowl twice a day, and if it does not get well in less than a week, cut off its head and burn or bury the body. Hoarse breathing, lumps on the face, foul odor and cough are indications of roup, a discharge from the nostrils usually being also noticed. The lumps on the face, with swollen eyes, accompanied with a very foul odor to the breath of the sick bird, indicates roup in a severe form. It will be quite a saving of time and labor, as well as of birds, to use air-slaked lime even without the aid of carbolic acid, and one cannot begin too early in the season.

SAVING LABOR IN FEEDING.

There is quite a saving of labor when the hens can be made to do a portion of the work for themselves. A poultryman who has excellent success finds it more profitable to feed sheaf-oats and sheaf-wheat than to thresh the grain for the hens. He states that when he throws one or two sheafs on the floor the hens are compelled to work to get the grain. They do not cease their operations when they have secured all of the grain, but continue to get more if they can, and work the straw over and over. He always cuts the bands and mixes the sheafs. Now, that is an idea that is not new to some, and is not known to all. It shows how easily one may provide work for the hens and also save labor to a certain extent. The fowls are always willing to work for the food received, if it is not given to them in a manner which re-

quires each yard fifteen feet front. The nests and roosts are at the rear, and the roof may be of tarred paper. The yards are of wire, thirty-two feet deep, and may have a wire covering, if preferred. The barn serves as a wind-break in winter.

BREEDS FOR BROILERS.

It is conceded that the best breeds for producing broilers of the highest quality are the Games and Dorkings; but it is well known that the Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks, Brahmas and Cochins are more generally preferred. The reason is that while they cannot compete in producing broilers of the highest quality with the Games and Dorkings, the chicks are more easily raised, and that is a very important point in winter. It is the losing of the chicks when they are young that inflicts the heaviest cost. Hardiness is the first of all qualities to seek in a breed.

YOUNG TURKEYS.

At any time after September the turkeys may be fed an additional ration, so as to get as much size as possible by Thanksgiving, which is not too far off to push the turkeys now. The supply of grass and insects will soon fall off, and the turkeys should have a supply of fresh meat and bone at least three times a week, as well as an occasional mess of bran and linseed-meal, with all the grain they can eat at night. Avoid high roosting-places for them, or they will become lame by jumping to the ground.

MIXED FOODS.

If any one will feed a flock of hens with grain (say ground corn and wheat), one pound to a certain number of fowls, and then feed the same number of fowls in

another yard on three quarters of a pound of grain mixed with cooked turnips or potatoes, the best results will be obtained from the flock having less grain with the turnips. This is due to the fact that the grain, being concentrated, is not so well digested as when the fowls have a dilutant (bulky food) in the form of cooked turnips or other roots.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHICKEN-CHOLERA.—I have used the following remedy and found it excellent. Others may also be benefited. Take crystals of carbolic acid, two ounces, and hyposulphate of soda, two ounces, dissolving in one gallon of clear water. Add of this solution one fourth or one half gill to one gallon of water, which the fowls drink, or it may be mixed in the same proportion in a mash made of the ground grain or other food. This not only relieves the fowls when they are sick, but is an excellent preventive. Chicken-cholera can only be introduced by direct importation of the virus, either with fowls, or by birds, rabbits or insects carrying it from neighboring farms. The virus is never carried through the air. When more than one fowl dies within a short period, cholera should be suspected. J. S. V. Canandaigua, N. Y.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Too Much Grain.—M. S. L., Elsberry, Mo., writes: "My fowls die suddenly—fall off the roost dead, only a few getting well. I feed corn enough to keep them fat."

REPLY:—You have overfed them during the warm weather. They die of apoplexy, being excessively fat.

Roup.—C. W. H., W. Newton, Ohio, writes: "My fowls had the roup last spring, and some have symptoms of it now. We will move this fall, and wish to know if it can be cured."

REPLY:—The fact that the roup remains is evidence that it will not pay to attempt to effect a cure. Do not carry one to the new place, but destroy all.

Foods for Sitters and Young Stock.—C. R. P., Avilla, N. D., writes: "1. What is the best food for sitting hens? 2. How should young chicks, turkeys and ducklings be fed?"

REPLY:—1. Feed once a day on corn, wheat and cooked potatoes. 2. Any variety of food, cooked bread for chicks; curds, chopped onions, and bread dipped in milk for turkeys, and cooked potatoes thickened with bran and corn-meal for ducklings.

Dying in the Shells.—W. R. J., New Hanover, Pa., writes: "1. What causes chicks to die in the shells in the incubator about the eighteenth day? 2. Will more than one hundred chicks do well in a brooder?"

REPLY:—1. The fact that some of the chicks do not die proves that the fault may be with the eggs, as chicks from eggs laid by very fat hens die in the shells, both under sitting hens and in incubators; your thermometer may also be incorrect. 2. Fifty chicks are sufficient for one brooder.

DO YOU PLAY WHIST, EUCHRE OR OTHER GAMES?

The F. F. V. playing-card is better than any 50-cent card on the market. Send 15 cents for one deck or 25 cents for two decks (stamps or currency) to C. B. Ryan, Asst. Gen'l Pass. Agt., C. & O. Ry., Cincinnati, Ohio.



YOUR HENS are lousy unless you do something to prevent. Use **Lambert's Death to Lice** to keep them clean and comfortable. It's a disinfectant insect powder for poultry vermin, etc. Book free. Sample 10c, 100 ozs. expr. \$1. D. J. LAMBERT, Box 303, Apponaug, R. I.

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We have "testimonials by the yard" from users of the **Premier Green Bone Cutter**. A child can run it. Self-cleaner; durable. Circular FREE. P. A. Webster, Cazenovia, N. Y.



THE IMPROVED VICTOR Incubator Hatches Chickens by Steam. Absolutely self-regulating. The simplest, most reliable, and cheapest first-class Hatcher in the market. Circulars FREE. GEO. ETEL CO., QUINCY, ILL.



A GOLD DOLLAR is about the actual worth of our new book on Incubation and Poultry. Contains a full and complete description of the **Reliable Incubator** & the **Brooder** of same name, together with cuts and instructions for building poultry houses and much of interest and great value to the poultryman. Sent on receipt of 10c. **RELIABLE INCUBATOR & BROODER CO., QUINCY, ILL.**

HENS WITH ANY CRIT

Will lay eggs. But with **MANN'S Granite Crystal Grit** and **MANN'S Green Bone Cutter** they lay twice as many. Green bone and Mann's Grit produce a food that gives wonderful results; as



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The columns of this paper are hardly long enough to print all the good words said about the *Neponset Waterproof Red Rope Fabric*. *Neponset* should not be confounded with ordinary tarred paper or building paper that quickly rots when exposed to the weather.

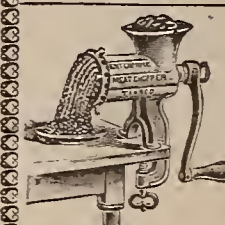
Neponset is used for covering roofs, sides, and walls of houses, barns, hen-houses, green-houses, hotbeds, haystacks, wagon-covers, and numerous other purposes.

It is very inexpensive: costs only \$5.00 for 500 square feet at the factory, with the necessary nails and tin caps. Any one with a hammer and pocket knife can put it on. With this *Fabric* you can repair your outbuilding so that it can storm, blow, or freeze, and your stock will not mind it, for *Neponset* is wind-proof and frost-proof.



Full particulars and samples free. Write F. W. Bird & Son, East Walpole, Mass. For sale by Dealers in Hardware, Lumber, and Building Supplies.

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deserves another. When you turn the handle of the **Enterprise Meat Chopper** you are rewarded with a surprising amount of work well done in a few seconds. It saves money,

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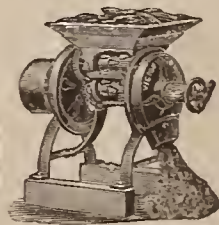
for making sausage and scrapple; for preparing hash, mince-meat, Hamburg steak, suet, tripe, cod-fish, clams, scrap meat for poultry, corn for fritters, etc. Improved for 15 years; now perfected.

Sold by all dealers in hardware. Small family size No. 5, \$2.00. Chops 1 lb. a minute. Large family size No. 10, \$3.00. Chops 2 lbs. a minute.

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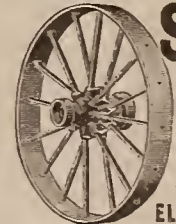
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(Original in FARM AND FIRESIDE.)

THE TENNESSEE CORN-SHUCKING.

BY WILL ALLEN DRONGOOLE.

I.

'Twas a mighty good ole fashion,
Back thar in Tennessee,
When the corn had all been gathered,
Ter have a shuckin'-bee.
A huskin', some folks call it,
But the style in Tennessee
Of callin' it a shuckin'
Is good enough fur me.

II.

Back thar amongst the mount'ns—
Oh fur them hills again!—
In a cabin by the cross-roads
I first met Letby Jane.
Her voice ware like the music
When birds an' brooks combine;
Her name fur me ware "Sweetie,"
An' mine fur her "Sunshine."

III.

Once, at a big corn-shuckin',
When the Lost Cove boys ware thar,
An' the gals from t'other mount'n,
An' might' nigh everwhar;
Lethy she ware settin'
Jest oppersite ter me,
An' I kep' a-kind o' whisperin',
"Pretties gal in Tennessee!"

IV.

An' I cl'ar furgot the shuckin',
Till Bob Gray tetched my han';
Sez he, "You got a red ear—
Come, claim you'r kiss, ole man."
I helt it up at Lethy;
Her pretty eyes sought mine;
An' sez I, as I flung it,
"I wants my kiss, Sunshine."

V.

One time that I remember,
'Tware at a shuckin'-bee,
I had a talk with Lethy.
An' Lethy talked with me.
An' sez I, kind o' haltin',
"You ben't afeard, Sunshine?"
Sez she, "Not with you, Sweetie,"
An' she laid her han' in mine.

VI.

An' before another autumn,
My Lethy Jane an' me
Jest mounted my roan filly
An' rid out o' Tennessee,
Ter Texas, 'cross the border;
We struggled thar a year,
An' not a blessed murmur
From Lethy did I hear.

VII.

But women's hearts air curious,
I've thought about it some;
How did I know my gal-wife's
Ware breakin' ter git home?
Them little tricks o' heartache,
That don't come roun' ter men,
But light upon a woman
Like a kind o' drippin' rain,

VIII.

A-stealin' of her roses,
With the slow an' stiddy drip,
An' kind o' sorter stiffin'
The laugh upon her lip.
So one night upon the Brazos,
In our little cabin home,
When the moon shined on the river,
And the little crickets hummed—

IX.

A night in early autumn,
About corn-shuckin' time,
The wind it kep' a-whisperin'
Like a half-breathed funeral hymn.
A funeral fur Letby—
Or so it seemed ter me,
In that little Texas cabin,
So fur from Tennessee.

X.

I set beside my gal-wife,
An' death set side o' me,
A solemn, awful presence,
An' all at once sez she,
"You've got red ear, Sweetie;
Come, fling it over here ter me."
She ware back at the corn-shuckin',
Back home in Tennessee.

XI.

An' the wind it kep' a-whisperin',
In that lonesome funeral way;
An' the fodder-blades ware shuin'
In the moonlight cl'ar as day.
An' her head ware on my shoulder—
Her pretty golden head—
Sez she, "The crap air gathered."
An' Lethy Jane ware dead.

XII.

So, when the year grows ruddy,
The golden fodder shakes,
An' the pretty ring-doves callin'
Down in the willer brakes,
An' all the trees air noddin',
As drowsy as can be,
I sighs, and sez, "They're shuckin',
Back home in Tennessee."

OPPORTUNITY.

My dead love came to me and said,
"God gives me one hour's rest
To spend with thee on earth again,
How shall we spend it best?"

"Why, as of old," I said; and so
We quarreled as of old;
But when I turned to make my peace,
That one short hour was told.

ANN TRISKET'S PRIDE.

BY WILL BURNLEY.

PART I.



MRS. BARBARA CROWFOOT sat by her fireside enjoying the warmth of a mellow wood fire, the purring of her tortoise-shell cat, and a letter from her favorite granddaughter, Axina Crowfoot. Axina's letters were spiced with an acerbity characteristic of the Crowfoot family which afforded her grandmother infinite amusement, and their coming was always looked forward to as an interesting event in the old lady's quiet life.

"To think that old hotel at Stubblebin should have been changed into a sanatorium," mused Mrs. Barbara, sipping her fragrant tea from a china cup as attenuated as her own income. "I can remember when it was a berry-patch all around there, and the old barns used to be a target for boys to throw stones at. Ann Trisket and I used to come that way from school when we wanted to hunt wild flowers and strawberries in the edge of the wood."

"And to think Axina should be one of the head nurses in a place like that; but Axina always was ambitious. I wonder if she will be satisfied now!"

Mrs. Crowfoot, adjusting her glasses, continued the reading of her letter.

"When you ask me to look up a person by the name of Ann, you don't realize that I have not a minute I can call my own from half-past five in the morning until I tumble into bed at night. You said you used to work together in the tailor-shops, but there are no tailor-shops

man had Ann make him as many as a dozen vests; but Joe always was reckless about spending his money, an' he was so in love with Ann he could 'a' kept on having her make vests for him forever.

"I can remember just how he used to look at Ann when she came into church in that pink tissue-dress with her dainty lace collar and undersleeves, an' that becoming poke-bonnet tied with white ribbons an' trimmed with those singular flowers. She was just as pretty as she could be, an' always so modest an' retiring, an' yet so full of fun an' life, too. She had a pretty way with her, Ann had. An' prond—there never was a prouder girl, or a girl more extravagant in her clothes. It was after she worked in the city two years that she came back to Stubblebin with such tasty gowns, an' parasols to match every one, an' the parasols all flounced.

"Joe always said she looked like a blush-rose in that pink tissue-dress an' that pink barege. I was kind o' sorry Ann couldn't have taken a notion to Joe. He was such an' honest, kind-hearted fellow. I think he would have settled down into a real steady, prosperous man as he grew older; but Ann was the most difficult, contrary, perverse person to please that ever was. Seems as if a prince had come along Ann would have turned up her nose; but then Ann's nose naturally did have kind of a tilt. How pretty she did look in that pale blue delaine dress with the deep embroidery collar at the quilting that night at Mrs. Kettlewell's. That was the night she an' Joe had some words, nobody knew what an' he flung himself out of the house storming as it was. No one ever see Joe again; but some one did say that Ann had letters with a foreign postmark that must have come from him—poor Joe!

"I should just like to know if Ann is that member of assembly's wife holding her head



"I COULD ONLY HOLD MY ARMS AROUND HER POOR SHOULDERS."

"A WOMAN THICKLY VEILED KNOCKED AT THE DOOR."

in Stubblebin any more, and to go hunting 'Ann' would be like trying to find a needle in a haystack.

"You speak of a girl with dark brown hair and eyes, and a complexion like rose-leaves, who is very fond of dress. That must be Mrs. Ann Coe, the banker's wife. Then you speak of a proud, hot-tempered woman. That must be Mrs. Ann Turnbull, the assemblyman's wife. She is president of three societies, and bolds her head up like a steer going through a field of corn. Then you speak of her as a timid person, whiffed around with every varying circumstance. That must be Sarah Ann Trisket, the miller's wife. She was weak enough to sign over all her property to her husband, and he has treated her like the limb of Satan that he is ever since.

"If you can decide which is your 'Ann' I will carry her the bushel of messages you speak of sometime when I'm off duty, which is two evenings in the week."

"Just like a Crowfoot," said Mrs. Barbara, folding the sheet with a pleased little sparkle in her eyes. "Which one can it be? Sarah Ann Trisket must be Jim Trisket's wife. Axina gives his picture complete. Mrs. Ann Coe, the banker's wife—Mrs. Ann Turnbull, the assemblyman's wife—it must be one or the other," and Mrs. Barbara balanced her worn silver spoon thoughtfully on the edge of her teacup. "I always thought Ann would marry rich. She had such a leaning toward fine things. What a beautiful creature she was when we worked in the tailor-shop together, an' it wasn't any disgrace for ladies to work at tailoring in those days. Any man in Stubblebin who could afford to have a brocaded satin vest made by Ann Trisket was considered an aristocrat. He walked out with a pomp an' air about him that other men couldn't have. Oh, you needn't wink at me, Daniel," as the tortoise-shell sitting in the opposite corner of the fireplace shook his head and purred doubtfully. "It is, the actual truth, an' Joe Higgle-

so high an' proud, wearing a stiff satin brocade to church an' kneeling on a velvet bassock. I must write to Axina to-night to go an' see her an' tell her I never shall forget the good times we had tailoring together."

Axina continued to write to her grandmother every week, and the following extracts are taken from her letters:

"I happened to have an hour or two off yesterday afternoon, so I ambled myself over, to call on Mrs. Turnbull. It seemed that she was having an afternoon off, too, for she was just opening the gate as I got there. It is the grandest place in Stubblebin, with a fine house, and velvet lawns, and terraces, and rose-beds and ornamental trees set out in figures. I wish you could see it all.

"I asked Mrs. Turnbull if she could direct me to a person whose maiden name was Ann Trisket before she was married. I was rather nervous, I must confess.

"Mrs. Turnbull, a comfortable, plump woman in elegant attire, smiled graciously as would become a member of assembly's wife and the president of three societies.

"Ann Trisket, the person you speak of, has never married, and the lady smoothed a wrinkle from her glove and lifted her parasol with a grand air that was in harmony with everything about the Turnbull place. 'I am going to call upon her now. Would you like to go with me?'

"Accepting this courteous offer, I found myself the next moment seated beside Mrs. Turnbull in her luxurious carriage driving in grand style through the streets of Stubblebin. I never turned my head to the right or the left, not even to notice James Carberry, or any old acquaintance I passed on the way, but just sat up stiff and straight as would become a Crowfoot and listened with proper interest to Mrs. Turnbull while she told me in snatches this story of Ann Trisket.

"In her younger days Ann was the finest seamstress in all the country around, and sup-

ported herself and her mother handsomely with needlework. After her mother's death Ann still did tailoring and kept house for her brother, but brother and sister never could agree, each being stubborn and difficult to please and neither one being willing to yield a grain to the other. The brother showed dents in the floor where Ann used to throw flat-irons at him, but it is more than probable they slipped from her hands, for the constant stitching day and night strained her eyes and they began to grow dim with cataract.

"Jim Trisket married a nice girl, a friend of Ann's in the tailor-shop, and with his wife's earnings he bought the mill. As for Ann, when he no longer needed his sister as house-keeper, he turned her out, and to-day he would not speak to her if he were to meet her on the street, nor would he send her a crust of bread if he knew she were starving. Ann went to live with a family in the country, friends of her mother, who felt very sorry for her and offered to give her a home for the rest of her life if she would help with the housework; but Ann was still difficult to please and stubborn in her ways, and the half-grown boys in the family tormented the life out of her, so she moved back to town and has lived alone ever since.

"Seeing her so helpless and lonely, different friends made plans for taking care of her. One arranged to have her taken to an old ladies' home, where she could have been comfortable, but Ann was prejudiced against old ladies' homes and would not go. Other neighbors tried to persuade Ann to go to church, thinking that the society would feel more interest in doing for her, but Miss Trisket, who had once been the best-dressed woman in town, said she would not be seen in church in a dilapidated old hat and shabby gown. The town, of course, is able and willing to take care of its poor and destitute, but Ann stubbornly refuses to ask for help.

"It appears that Miss Trisket has a very little money laid up out of which she pays her rent in Mrs. Puffet's house. Mrs. Puffet and Mrs. Windy, her sister, two worthy old ladies, occupy the house down-stairs, while Ann for the last dozen years has lived in the attic rooms over the wing. She rarely goes on the street, and lives so secluded a life that some of her townspeople have never seen her and others have never so much as heard her name. Her little savings must have nearly melted away by this time and she is doubtless in real want.

"But what can be done for so stubborn, so unreasonable an old woman," sighed Mrs. Turnbull, putting down her lace parasol, and with this we alighted at Mrs. Puffet's door.

"The Puffet cottage is a sunny old house with brown weather-beaten clapboards, and a row of bright dahlias clustering about it reminding one of the quilled border to an old lady's cap. The narrow path around the house was neatly swept, I observed, and the stairs in the back entry, though gray with age, were scrubbed until they shone like wax.

"Mrs. Turnbull gave a smart rap at the door at which there was at first only kind of a listening silence, broken by a skurry of trembling footsteps and a fumbling at the latch of the door. The door at length opened, and Miss Trisket peered out in a wistful, questioning way, for she could not distinguish our faces.

"I am Mrs. Turnbull—Mrs. John Turnbull—president of the Ladies' Relief Corps," explained my companion, pitching her voice very loud and high, as if Ann were deaf and dumb as well as blind.

"I understand," returned Ann, shrinking back and clasping her hands tightly.

"And this," continued Mrs. Turnbull, in a still sharper voice, "is Miss Axina Crowfoot, head nurse at the Cure."

"She is!" gasped Miss Trisket, twisting her hand still more tightly together with a visible quivering of the lips this time. Miss Trisket has a sweet mouth, and her eyes, though dimmed with the film of cataract, are still dark and lovely. Her hair, parted and brushed smooth in the old-fashioned way, is a soft, silvery gray, and her complexion is, as you say, like rose-leaves. Her dress, of worn gray flannel, was covered with patches, but every patch was set so neatly and her pink calico apron was freshly done up.

"Will you have chairs?" Miss Trisket asked, when her first nervous flurry was over, and with quiet dignity set out an old-fashioned rocker and a cane-seated chair, enameled just like our chairs at home with dim red apples and gilt bolly-leaves. Ann herself retired to a splint-bottomed chair, very stiff and straight in the back, which stood at the farther side of the room.

"While Mrs. Turnbull exchanged some comments on the weather with Miss Trisket, I glanced about at the furnishing of the room. The little pallet in a corner which served for a bed, the broken pitcher on the table carefully mended with putty, the papers pinned at the windows in place of shades, the broken old stove, and bit of oil-cloth worn to sbrds, all spoke of extreme poverty, and yet the room was not cheerless or even bare in aspect. A few bright pictures were pinned on the wall; the broken piteber held its nose with a humorous tilt laughingly like Ann's; the ill-fitting shades let in bands of sunshine across the rag carpet, which was woven in the prettiest rainbow-hued stripes you ever saw. There was an air of neatness and brightness about everything in the room from the little pillow-case, which perched so primly at the head of the poor old pallet, to the plump old strawberry pincushion with little strawberry emeries

hanging all around it, which stood up with so proud an air on the glass standard ornamenting the cherry table at Miss Trisket's elbow. I was just wondering if this were not a souvenir of Ann's tailoring days with my grandmother, when my reflections were disturbed by hearing Mrs. Turnbull saying, not unkindly, but with an air of patronage:

"I understand that the Relief Corps sent you a dinner a year ago last Christmas, Miss Trisket, and also a sack of flour last Thanksgiving?"

"I remember the sack of flour," returned Ann, wincing visibly; "and the Christmas before somebody sent some ribs of beef—it was very poor beef—but good meat—I don't know as you would call it a dinner."

"Well, whatever it was, it has occasioned some disagreement among the ladies of the Relief Corps, for we are pledged only to help soldiers' widows and orphans, and you are, as I understand, neither a soldier's widow nor an orphan."

"I can't say that I am," returned Ann, dejectedly.

"However," continued Mrs. Turnbull, magnanimously, "the majority of the ladies voted that you should have help, and I have to ask what you need?"

"I am not in need of anything," replied Ann, her lips shutting tightly together and a bright pink flush flying into her cheeks.

"Surely you must be in need of flour, or fuel, or something," returned Mrs. Turnbull, aghast at Ann's refusal of such benevolence.

"I don't want to hear anything more about it," returned Ann, in a dry, snapping voice, while she clasped her hands convulsively and shrank back as if she would go through the wall.

"Very well," returned Mrs. Turnbull, haughtily, gathering her skirts about her. "If you want nothing, you shall have nothing!" And sweeping out of the room, she rustled angrily down the stairs.

"Stricken into a panic with Ann's bad temper, I followed, too, feeling sick at heart."

"Axina—Axina Crowfoot," I kept saying to myself. "You have always delighted to be just as stubborn and as proud as any Crowfoot could be—and you are coming to just what Ann Trisket has come to."

"Did you ever see such a spitfire?" asked Mrs. Turnbull, querulously, as she stepped into her carriage. "I am completely disheartened."

"But was it not pitiful to see her head on the floor?" I replied, conscious all the while of the two curious old ladies peering out from behind the front window-blinds.

"If people will be so queer, let them go cold and hungry; let them sleep on the floor; they deserve nothing better."

"Thank you, I cannot ride," as Mrs. Turnbull motioned me lothly to a seat beside her. "I have an errand in town."

"I had gone not more than half a square when I discovered my gloves had been dropped, and I hurried back to Ann Trisket's chamber."

"Running lightly up the stair, I found the door still ajar, and looking in saw poor Ann Trisket, her head bowed in her arms, sobbing as if her heart would break. While I hesitated to enter she began talking aloud in a passionate storm of feeling:

"She insinuated that I was a pauper—an' Mis' Puffet an' Mis' Windy listenin' on the other side of the closet door—I heard 'em come tiptoe softly up the other stairs—I heard 'em—an' they know how I have lived on salt an' potatoes all these weeks to keep from coming on the town. A pauper—oh, the disgrace of it! I would rather be dead, an' buried out of sight!"

"Never mind, Ann—never mind, Ann Trisket," I cried, stumbling over the little rocker, and getting everything mixed up. "I'm Axina Crowfoot, a friend of your grandmother's—no, I mean your grandmother was a friend of Barbara's, and Barbara loves you and sends a whole bushel of messages to you about the good times you had tailoring together."

"Ann began to sob afresh at this, but did not lift her face or say she was glad to hear from Barbara, so I could only hold my arms around her poor patched shoulders until she had quieted a little, and then I slipped softly away."

"The first afternoon I had off from duty at the sanatorium I went straight to Jim Trisket's mill and bought a sack of flour. When I ordered it sent to Ann Trisket, the look I gave him should have leveled a stone wall, but Jim Trisket neither shrunk nor blanched as he wrote in the order-book his sister's name."

"I then whisked around to Ann's attic room and joyfully handed her your little purse of silver pieces. She did not seem to notice the money at first, but held the purse very close to her eyes so that she might see what it was. Afterward she hid her face in her hands until, drying her eyes, she said, apologetically:

"Don't mind an' old fool like me. I netted that purse for Barbara more than forty years ago. It was a gift for her birthday. It's faded now, but it was a crimson silk once, an' the steel heads were as bright as silver. She will remember what a warm June day it was, with the trees an' flowers an' birds all so thick. She wore a white muslin that day, with low neck an' short puffed sleeves, an' I can remember how sweet an' innocent she looked as we walked up an' down the garden. It was at the time Mr. Crowfoot was just beginning to keep company with her, an' when she spoke about

him she stooped over a rose-bush to pick a cluster of pink buds so that I wouldn't notice her blushes."

"I laughed at her shyness, an' told her Joe Highleman had promised to think of me every time he breathed as long as ever he lived, but I wasn't going to believe any such nonsense."

"Then a man takes you into his life, Ann," said Barbara, "you have no right to laugh at him like that," an' we walked up an' down the garden walk, dreamin' no more of what was comin' to us two than the butterflies hanging over the musk-roses an' garden pinks were dreamin' of frost an' winter-time comin' out of that blue sky."

"Little by little Ann has opened her heart to me so that I have learned something of her affairs. She has a few hundred dollars saved up which brings her an income of sixteen dollars a year, and she tries as far as possible to live within this income. Is she not a brave financier? Her rent is eighteen dollars a year, and besides there is fuel to buy, and food, so the wisest financiering could not stretch that pitiful little sum of sixteen dollars over all her expenses, but Ann has done her best. Only God knows of the bitter days Ann Trisket has spent in this lonely attic chamber, shivering with cold, starving for food, hungering for the love she had once laughed at—poor Ann! Yet her stubborn pride has never yielded. The neighbors declare that Ann would starve to death without a word. She would never ask for help."

"But help has come to her through a merciful Providence in unexpected ways."

"One evening just at dusk a woman, thickly veiled, knocked at her door, and handing her a little package, walked directly away. Upon opening the package, Ann found that it contained five dollars, all in small coins as if it had been gathered painfully together."

"She has come different times—always at dusk," said Ann, speaking softly, "an' I never durst ask who she is."

"One Christmas-time, a stranger in town, hearing of Ann's destitution, visited her and asked her kindly what she would like the most."

"After some consideration Ann replied, honestly:

"I have always wanted a hottle of camphor."

"That stranger borrowed a large market-basket of one of Ann's neighbors, and in the bottom of it he put first a pair of new shoes, with money stuffed in the toes to make them comfortable. Then he went to every shop in town begging for gifts for Ann, and before night the good Samaritan carried the basket to Ann, heaped up, pressed down and running over with goodness, Ann said. Among all the rest was the camphor-bottle, and you may see it to-day on the cherry table beside the fat strawberry pin cushion, where it always reminds Ann of that wonderful Christmas."

"Her neighbors are not rich people, but they have always been kind to send Ann the little things they could spare. It may be a pail of milk or a dozen of eggs, or a pat of butter or a loaf of bread—whatever it is, Ann makes it go so far. If it is a quart of milk she will scald it, and then can it, and use perhaps a spoonful a day, and so make it last nearly two weeks. This is the way with everything—she makes the most of it."

"As you can imagine, she goes without all the comforts of life. When her shoes give out, she cuts old pieces of cloth into the shape of boots and with infinite pains puts them together. Old tin cans neatly washed and scrubbed, serve as cups and cooking-utensils. She never indulges in the luxury of a lamp or even a candle light. Only one night in twelve years has a light ever been seen in her window. This was one Thanksgiving evening when, after nightfall, a neighbor sent in a basket of provisions, and Ann was so nearly starved that she borrowed a lamp of Mrs. Puffet and cooked one good meal."

"Are Mrs. Puffet and Mrs. Windy good to you, Ann?" I asked on one of my visits. "Why did they let you come down to salt and potatoes?"

"Oh, they are good," returned Ann, patiently. "It was Mis' Puffet who gave me the potatoes that kept me from starving. She was sick an' I did a little work for her, an' she paid me with a bushel of potatoes. Mis' Puffet can't give much, and Mis' Windy can't give much, for they are poor themselves, an' then they thought mebbe after I come down to salt an' potatoes my pride'd give in." Here Ann paused to make sure that the worthy old ladies were not in the closet. "But they are good," she continued when the sound of voices indicated that Mrs. Puffet and Mrs. Windy were engaged with visitors down-stairs. "They always loan me their kettle an' their claw-hammer, an' they always divide their kindlin' with me."

"But why didn't your neighbors send you things, Ann, when their gardens were overflowing?"

"Oh, the neighbors are good to me—better than I deserve. There never is a festival or a birthday or a surprise party but somebody sends me a box of all the good things, an' other times, too, they do a great deal; but this summer some of them had moved away, an' some had forgot to remember, an' Mis' Goodell, the best one, was sick all summer. Her little Marjorie used to come, though, sometimes. She bought this pillow with money that was given her to go to a concert, and lifting the towel which covered it, Ann showed me a gay little pink and blue pillow, ornamented with tassels."

"I will never forget the day Marjorie brought me this pillow," Ann went on, softly. "I hadn't had any flour in two weeks, an' when the little thing came in daucin' an' laughin', an' hugged it into my arms, I was so in bopes it was a loaf of bread. When I opened the parcel I couldn't say a word for the faintness that came over me, and the poor child went away so disappointed."

"Ann has a difficult temper, there is no mistake about that; but it is like the thorny setting of a rose, all on the outside, and when you come to know her she is so sweet-hearted. She speaks gently of every one, and even for the brother she has not an unkind word."

"I was young then, an' I lacked judgment," she said, regretfully, when we were talking the matter over. "I tried him to the quick, an' I shouldn't have done it. He always was nervous an' fiery, mother said, an' I ought to have humored him."

"He should be different to you now, Ann, for you have changed," I said, putting down the tack-hammer that I might view the effect of the picture I was putting up to brighten Ann's room. A pretty young girl, who reminded me some way of Ann, was sitting on a stile plucking the petals from a handful of daisies with a wistful, questioning look on her face. It was called "Waiting."

"Yes, I am changed," returned Ann, sadly, thinking how she had changed from the young girl to an old woman, and never realizing for a moment how all her suffering had chastened her into richness of character."

"Why, Axina!" she cried, feeling over the assorted tacks in the saucer, "here are some shingle-nails. I've just been wantin' some shingle-nails. How much did you give for this paper of tacks?"

"Three cents, Ann Trisket."

"For the next half hour Ann was so happy over those shingle-nails that I felt I had never in my whole life spent three cents which brought me so much real enjoyment."

"Grandmother Barbara, who can this mysterious veiled lady be?"

(To be continued.)

NEEDED—A KITCHEN RENAISSANCE.

BY KEZIAH SHELTON.



THE fashionable cooking-school that teaches the high-born and the would-have-beens alike to make fanciful dishes out of expensive nothings, spiced at the table with tobasco sauce, will never replace the old-time kitchen education for the wives of wage-earners. Apropos of this is a conversation stumbled upon.

"I will never work in a kitchen," the salesgirl was saying.

"What will you do?" asked her customer.

"I don't know," was the reply. "But that I will not. Would you?"

"I have, and should again if strong enough. My husband still has to work, and a man cannot afford to let his wife play lady if he has to labor for a living. It seems to me, under such circumstances, that the wife should labor to help him to accumulate a little something to depend upon when old age or sickness comes. If it takes the week's wages to pay each week's bills, what is to be done when the man is taken sick or he loses his situation?"

"Oh, I don't know. Isn't it horrid to be poor? It makes me mad when I see the fine ladies drive up here in their carriages, with nothing to do but to spend their time and go shopping." And she sighed as girls will who have learned to dream of being rich, but not how to help attain even a competence.

"Did you ever think that they would never have had their riches if at some time some one had not only worked, but saved? Did you think, when Miss Vanderwort just went out, that her grandmother worked for less than your wages, and saved her money? That her grandfather worked like the driver of a street-dray, and saved his money? There is no wealth in America but that has its root in some one's hard work. Some one wore working-man's and working-woman's clothing, and saved every dollar possible, put it out at interest or bought land, and made the fortune of to-day in consequence. If Miss Vanderwort's grandparents had lived as well as the working-people of to-day try to live, she would have been in your situation or a similar one, instead of about to marry an English nobleman."

"Then I wish that I had had such grandparents," interrupted the little salesgirl.

"So you think it would have been easier for your grandmother to have worked, for her to have denied herself the pretty clothes that richer girls wore, than it is for you to work and deny yourself to save? Is not that rather selfish, and hard upon your grandmother?"

"Oh, dear, I don't know! It's all hard, anyway. I don't see why I shouldn't be rich and have nothing to do, as well as Miss Vanderwort," and she discontentedly took down another box for her customer.

"Neither do I see why my grandparents did not live on crusts, so that I should have the ice-creams of life. But that is not the question that is put before me. My question is how to make the best of life as I find it. Really, I do not suppose that work was any more agreeable to the dear old lady than it is to me. I am sure of one thing, she never thought that work belonged to her husband any more than to her."

The girl was not convinced. Neither are the thousands and one girls in similar conditions convinced by any arguments that are brought up. In the novels which they read the heroines never work in the kitchen, though they may do fancy-work sitting in a flower-owered bay-window or in a rattan rocker on a shaded piazza. Is it not largely the trashy novels that have undermined the common sense of girls in moderate circumstances, and girls who must marry in their own class? If they are pretty and vivacious, they may receive attention from young men a little higher in social circles, but the offer of marriage does not come. They do not have the opportunity to be snubbed by the differently educated mothers and sisters of these same attentive youths. When hope dies out, they usually take up with the long-waiting mechanic who has worshiped at a distance, half believing himself that the girl is really as much his superior as she has fancied herself to be. After marriage, instead of going into the kitchen and trying to make his weekly wages of eighteen or twenty dollars support them and leave a margin for the "rainy day," she cries over the same set of novels, and wonders why she couldn't have been rich as well as other folks.

Milliners, dressmakers, saleswomen and teachers all try to dress like women of means, and yet the majority of them will marry a three-dollar-a-day man. If they submit gracefully after marriage to living within the husband's income, well and good. As a rule, on the contrary, they run in debt rather than dress less fashionably than before marriage. "A woman must love a man dearly to be willing to dress poorly for his sake." Granted; therefore a woman who knows that she spends all she can earn, and then wishes she had more, should live single and continue to earn her own clothes, rather than marry a "three-dollar man." Arithmetic is the same to-day and to-morrow, and if six or ten dollars a week is not enough to board and clothe a woman satisfactorily, then eighteen or twenty dollars will not clothe this same woman and a husband, and furnish a house for them, and pay their doctor's bills, she should in mercy to the man refrain from marrying him. If she does marry him, she will doubtless be unwise or selfish enough to class ten-dollar bonnets and twenty-dollar cloaks among the necessities and comforts of life. A whole week's wages spent on a cloak for a wife means a bill for food or coal, and no cash to pay for it.

All in this world is a matter of comparison. If one's income is five hundred a year it is gross extravagance to spend six hundred. If the income is one thousand, a man is mean who would try to save more than two hundred of it, and meaner still if, having two thousand, he tries to live on five hundred; so says the world of to-day. And yet, had not the "grandfathers" of the present multi-millionaires done just those very things, there would have been no "luxurious class." They not only earned, they punctiliously saved and thriftily invested.

Said an aged man, "There are a thousand chances to get rich to-day where there was one in my time. See that young man? He has twenty-five hundred a year, and it takes every dollar; and his wife is hoping he will get into something soon that will pay. Pay! I should think that he was already there. I began at six hundred a year, and saved a hundred the first year. I was thirty when my salary went up to nine hundred; but we lived along just the same, and I saved four hundred a year. Now my grandsons think I ought to hand out to them, to help them along. If their salary goes up four hundred they move into a nicer house or buy a horse and carriage. They cry, 'Times have changed.' That's no excuse."

To live as the grandfathers of the elect four hundred lived is beneath the notice of the very men and women who sit down and envy these same four hundred to-day. Yet these ancestors bravely lived as much behind the style of their day as it would be behind the style for the working-man's wife to-day to live within the husband's income. It is the luxuries, not the comforts of life, that are beyond a mechanic's means. A fashionable suit is a luxury; a comfortable one a necessity. The latter he can afford.

One's fortune is great or small as compared with those who have less. It might be said that every working-woman's fortune lies in her kitchen. But alas! while there are men who work, there are few of their wives who allow that they are, or ought to be, working-women.

I called upon "a born lady," with three servants, and she excused herself because it was a busy day, and she was shelling the peas for dinner. So another member of the family entertained me.

A call upon a woman of no means nor social position was made, and she was fretting because dinner was delayed by the slowness of one servant.

The lady born kept an eye upon every department daily. The other felt it very hard that a woman must pay servants and look out for things beside. The one prided herself upon knowing how to cook, the other upon not knowing.

There is a fortune lying in every kitchen. It may not be more than two dollars a week in one; it may be ten in another. In the first, the two dollars to be saved by constant over-

sight, if not actual labor, is a greater fortune than the one where it is possible for the waste to be ten times two. That Mrs. Vanderwort pays a housekeeper a handsome salary to give this oversight to her kitchen is no reason that the grocer's and dry-goods man's wives should feel that they should let their servants run the house.

And how about the little salesgirl? She married a fellow-clerk at fifteen dollars a week. They boarded awhile for ten; got in debt for clothes and theater-tickets, and now have gone home to live. "Ma" gives them their board, and they do continue to dress quite up to date.

"I always vowed I would not work in a kitchen, and we can't keep servants, so we can't keep house. Pa scolds about having us here, but he ought to know that I have some pride."

But though at first one pities pa and ma, have they not brought this upon themselves? Did not ma spare her daughter a kitchen education, thinking it not quite so ladylike (?) as to let the girl go into a store and earn six dollars a week for her personal clothing? Had she received a kitchen education while in school, or afterward, she would not have subjected her husband to the mortification of hearing pa scold at having to support a son-in-law.

Will there be a kitchen renaissance—for the middle classes, at least—in the cycles of the future?

TRIPE AND ONIONS.

Scientific research has again knocked all the stuffing out of one of the most popular of gastronomic theories; namely, that the humble but appetizing tripe (with onions) was exceptionally digestible. Even Brillat-Savarin had not a soul above well-dressed tripe for supper, mainly on the ground that it was at least "light" on the stomach—certainly much "lighter" than beef, mutton or any other kind of meat. That theory must now be abandoned in the face of the conclusions to be drawn from extensive experiments carried out by Dr. P. Solomon, and published in statistical form by the United States Agricultural Department. The experiments were divided into two three-day periods. In the first period the diet consisted of tripe, bread, butter and a little flour; in the second an equivalent of meat was substituted for tripe, and in both instances beer was used as a beverage. The details of the chemical analyses cannot be entered upon. Suffice it to say that Dr. Solomon arrived at the conclusion that "in general there is no marked difference in the digestibility of tripe and meat."

PUBLIC LAUNDRIES.

It is probable that public laundries, similar to those which have been established in Great Britain for some time, will be arranged shortly for the convenience of the New York housewife of the poorer classes, to whom the weekly wash-day is a time of trial. In England these public laundries are splendidly equipped with all kinds of machinery for laundrywork, so that not only by patronizing them may a woman keep her own house clear from the general disturbance attendant upon wash-day even in well-to-do families, but in one hour she will be able to do what would require four or five with the limited conveniences of home laundries. The cost for using such laundries is but five cents an hour, in which time it is estimated that the laundrywork of five persons may be done. These laundries are not to benefit the professional laundress, but the actual housekeeper. Plans for such a project are now being considered by the committee of seventy of New York.

TESLA ON SLEEP.

In reply to the question, "Is it wise for a man to deny himself and get along with a few hours' sleep a day in order to do more work?" M. Tesla, the great electrician, replied: "That is a great mistake. A man has just so many hours to be awake; and the fewer of these he uses up each day, the more days they will last; that is, the longer he will live. I believe that a man might live two hundred years if he would sleep most of the time. That is why negroes often live to advanced age, because they sleep so much. It is said that Gladstone sleeps seventeen hours every day; that is why his faculties are still unimpaired in spite of his great age. The proper way to economize life is to sleep every moment that it is not necessary or desirable that you should be awake."—Popular Science News.

A SMALL piece of candle may be made to burn all night by putting finely powdered salt on it until it reaches the black part of the wick. A small even light may be kept in this way.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 520 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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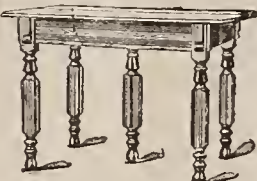


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First Prize in Cash—\$50.00 to ten persons first sending correct answers.

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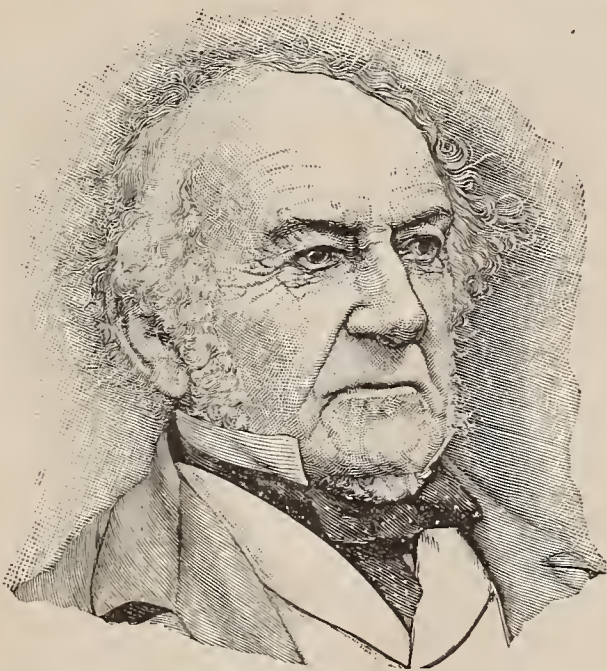
Third Prize in Cash—\$50.00 to next 50 persons sending correct answers.

Should more than the required number send correct answers, the awards will be made according to date letter is mailed, hence it is advisable that your letter should be among the first. You can win one of these prizes if you are quick and use your brains. The above rewards are given free as an inducement to read New Ideas, a handsome 16-page illustrated journal covering an entirely new field. It gives information about the latest inventions and progress in science, illustrating the most striking novelties for business and household use. Its subscription price is the only cheap thing about it. Send answer to-day!

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Aside from the prizes above named, we will give a special prize to each person who sends an answer, whether correct or not, provided that 25 cents in silver or stamps be sent for a six months' subscription to New Ideas. These special prizes are awarded along the line of Novelties, Music, Decorative Art, History and Fiction. Be sure to state in letter which you want. This contest will close Saturday, Oct. 30th, and names of prize winners will be announced in Dec. number of New Ideas. Address, New Ideas, Sta. K, 130, Philadelphia, Pa.



Mr. Gladstone has contributed an important article for the next year's volume of The Companion, to be published in the New Year's Number.

TO GIVE MORE than is promised has always been the practice of The Companion. The two hemispheres have been searched for attractive matter for the volume for 1898, and the contributors for the year include not only popular writers of fiction, but some of the most eminent Statesmen, Scientists, Educators, Explorers and Leaders of Industry.

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Our Household.

THE JOURNEY.

I think of death as some delightful journey
That I shall take when all my tasks are done;
Though life has given me a heaping measure
Of all best gifts, and many a cup of pleasure,
Still better things await me further on.

This little earth is such a merry planet,
The distances beyond it so supreme,
I have no doubt that all the mighty spaces
Between us and the stars are filled with faces
More beautiful than any artist's dream.

I like to think that I shall yet behold them,
When from this waiting-room my soul has
soared.

Earth is a wayside station, where we wander,
Until from out the silent darkness yonder
Death swings his lantern, and cries, "All
aboard!"

I think death's train sweeps through the solar
system

And passes suns and moons that dwarf our
own,
And close beside us we shall find our dearest,
The spirit friends on earth we held the nearest,
And in the shining distance God's great
throne.

Whatever disappointment may befall me
In plans or pleasures in this world of doubt,
I know that life at worst can but delay me,
But no malicious fate has power to stay me
From that grand journey on the Great Death
route.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox, in Baltimore American

HOME TOPICS.

WHenever I have an opportunity I am on the lookout for good recipes for the FARM AND FIRESIDE. At a lunch not long ago such a pretty and delicious dish of apple compote was served that I have since begged the recipe, and give it here-with:

APPLE COMPOTE.—Pare medium-sized tart apples and take out the cores, leaving the apples whole. Make a syrup, using three fourths of a pound of sugar to a pound of apples; when the syrup comes to a boil, skim it and then put in the fruit, and let it cook until it looks clear, but remains whole. Take the apples out carefully into a glass dish, then pour the boiling syrup, of which there should be about a pint, over half a box of gelatin which has been soaked an hour in half a pint of cold water. Stir until the gelatin is dissolved, then strain it over the apples, and set it on ice or in a cold place to harden. Unless you have ice it is best to make it the day before you wish to use it. Serve with whipped cream. I use phosphated gelatin, and like it better than any other. This apple compote is very pretty made with red gelatin.

OCTOBER WORK.—The canning, preserving and pickling are done now for this year. The house is in order for the winter, and now comes the fall sewing. The



children are again in school, and one of the first things is to see that they have comfortable clothing for the first cool days. If last winter's underclothing was darned and mended before being put away, it is now ready for use, unless outgrown.

If you do not buy the union suits of underclothing, sew buttons on the shirts, a little below the waist-line, and button the

drawers to these. Underwear for children can be made from the best parts of the worn garments of adults. It has been a problem to me what to do with the legs of my stockings when they were perfectly good and the feet too much worn to be darned again. I never liked made-over stockings, as the seams always hurt the feet. This fall a bright idea came to me, and two hours' work on the sewing-machine made two suits of fall underclothes for a little girl out of four pairs of stocking-legs and two pairs of sock-legs. Rip one pair of stockings open in the seam; lay the two pieces together, and cut them like Fig. 1; then sew up the shoulder and under-arm seams, making a long-waisted body. Cut off the hems of the other pair, and rip them down the seam far enough to make the rest of the body; then cut a square piece about four inches on each side, fold it diagonally and sew two sides to the front and back of one of the leg pieces. It will look like Fig. 2; then sew the two leg pieces together down to the gusset, both back and front, and the rest to the other two sides of the gusset. Now cut these leg pieces down on each side at the top, bind these plackets and sew one side of the top of the front of the waist piece. Open the waist in the back, face or bind the neck, back and across the bottom. Bind the top of the drawers in the back and make them to button to the waist. Cut off the sock-legs, slant them to the waist and sew them in for sleeves. The finished suit will look like Fig. 3. Instead of binding the neck, a tape may be run in the top hem or an edge crocheted with knitting-cotton. As the stockings I used were heavy, fleece-lined ones, they will be very comfortable in cold weather. I have made a skirt of the best parts of a pair of gray summer trousers. It is cut in gores, and the bottom is bound with blue braid. A light-weight brown overcoat furnished material for an Empire jacket for this same little girl. I am sure people who have all the money they wish do not know what a pleasure there is in cutting and turning and making new garments out of old, that will look "a'maist as weel's the new."

MAIDA McL.

A FANCY WAIST.

While nearly everything is a blouse waist in style, there are some who have decided they will have a tight waist, well trimmed, especially for evening.

The illustration is of heavy white satin, for evening wear, but will look as well in broadcloth, white serge or mohair. The elaborate trimming is of jet, and forms the larger part of the waist. The yoke can be of lace over satin in a color which the necktie must harmonize with in one of the elaborate ribbons now so much worn. It requires two yards; is put in front first, crossed in the back, brought forward and tied in a four-in-hand. The collar and cuffs are of white silk made over stiffening, or can be of linen if preferred. L. L. C.

LITTLE GIRLS' SKIRTS.

We give an illustration of two ways to make a little girl's skirts. In the detached one the waist can answer for two skirts, by having a double row of buttons. In the other it is made in one, which is a better one for muslin skirts. An economical way to do is to make skirts after the pattern of No. 1, for winter wear, of Lansdale cambric or of long cloth, making a good hem. The next summer your child will have grown in height, but not any other way materially, and with new aprons these can be utilized as common dresses. In making the flannels use only the best quality, which will wash

well till worn out; finish as illustrated with a narrow scallop in white silk. When they shorten, add a scant ruffle of white flannel finished either with a scallop or a narrow hem and brier stitch. Do not load your child down with a lot of trimming. The plainest, most neatly made clothes are the most stylish, and do not require as much care to keep them looking nice. L. L. C.

THANKSGIVING COOKERY.

The turkey is the chief feature of the regulation Thanksgiving dinner, and the to-be hostess of this especial occasion has usually the idea very firmly impressed upon her mind that, without the turkey prepared to the taste of the queen, her dinner must of necessity be not at all "up-to-date."

The very best of said-to-be authorities on cookery tell us that if turkey is to be at its best, it should never be stuffed. It is claimed that thereby it loses much of its own peculiarly delicious flavor. Such knowledge of turkey cookery is not universally known—at least not universally adopted. For the average housewife, it will be found, prepares her Thanksgiving turkey for the oven with some one of the many dressings for stuffing. If the former plan be followed, two tablespoonfuls or a little more of sweet butter are placed on the breast of fowl and set in a very hot oven for a half hour. The outside of the turkey is thus seared over and the juices of the meat all retained. After the first hour the heat is diminished and the baking continued in a more moderate oven. Baked in a double bake-pan or roaster but little basting of the fowl will be required. Twenty minutes' baking for each pound of turkey-meat is the rule, not counting the half hour taken to sear over at the beginning. Salt and pepper are not used until the turkey is nearly done.

If the turkey is to be stuffed with oysters, the following will be found an excellent recipe: Slightly mince one and one half dozen of oysters, half a pint of bread-



crumbs and two tablespoonfuls of sweet butter, broken into bits; salt and pepper to usual taste, flavor with sage or other preferred herbs, and add two well-beaten eggs. Mix thoroughly. A less expensive stuffing is of herb-seasoned bread-crumbs, moistened, seasoning also with salt and pepper and enough of chopped onions to give an agreeable taste.

Turkey without cranberries would scarce be turkey at all. To a quart of cranberries a pint of sugar will be required, with half as much water as sugar. Bring the sugar and water to a boil, skim well, add the berries, and cover closely for a few minutes. Let them cook slowly, simmering rather than boiling hard. Do not stir them, but shake the stew-pan frequently, but in a gentle way. Never cook in other than an earthen or graniteware dish. Tin will ruin them. If cranberry jelly be preferred to the cranberry sauce, formula for making may be appreciated: Three cupfuls of water to every two quarts of berries, cooked until thoroughly soft, and strain. Measure the juice, and boil it rapidly for twenty minutes. Skim until perfectly clear. A pound of granulated sugar to a pound of cranberry-juice is the rule. Boil again for five minutes, or a moment or so, longer if not jellied.

Celery, home-grown or ordered, will accompany the cranberries and turkey, and whether served from a high-stand celery-vase or from the latest flat celery-dish matters nothing materially, we presume. If it is crisp and tender, that is all that is required, beyond the skill of the housewife to make it presentable and eatable.

No more would Thanksgiving be a regulation Thanksgiving-day without pumpkin pie than without turkey. Everybody knows how to make pumpkin pie—after a fashion. Few, however, according to my way of thinking, make a pumpkin pie that is perfection. They are usually dry instead of rich and creamy, and not nicely seasoned. But tastes differ,

The main trouble seems to be in using too much pumpkin and too little of good, rich milk. Eggs, too, are usually scarce and high-priced at holiday times, and in lieu of eggs more pumpkin is used, with the result that the pie is stiff, dry and disappointing. A pumpkin custard makes a beautiful pie. It is a pie that melts in the mouth instead of being pasty and coarse-grained. Try using more eggs and more milk (milk with the cream on) and



No. 1.

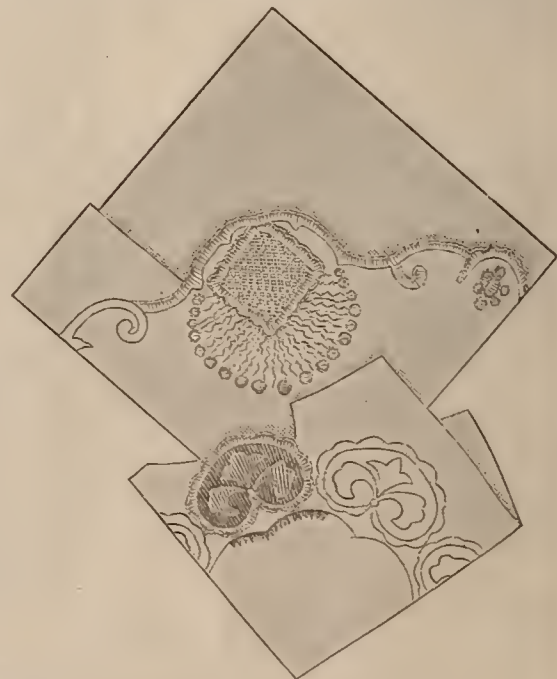
No. 2.

less of the sifted pumpkin. Watch the pie closely, that it does not remain in the oven too long and so become overbaked.

A custard pie boiled is always ruined. The same is true of a pie of pumpkin. The pumpkin custard should be thin, fine, seasoned with fresh ginger and cinnamon to taste, sweetened with sugar and not with syrups or molasses, the pastry-lined tin filled deep, and the oven tempered to the right heat. And the right heat must be judged by each individual housekeeper. Our pumpkin pies are all made by guess. We depend upon "looks" and taste. A thick, ropy custard makes a coarse, dry pie. A pumpkin pie that is creamy when baked is the most delicious pie ever concocted, unless it may be the date pie. And that resembles no other thing so much as it does a perfectly made, delicious pie of pumpkin.

With coffee, foamy whipped potatoes, rich dark gravy, side-dishes of tomatoes, and corn, a dish of cream-prepared turnips, beautiful light rolls and sweet yellow butter, what, pray tell, could be asked for more? Surely nothing more, except it might be the bank pyramid of fruits piled high in the center of the already laden table. Yet our hostess has doubtless felt that without cakes of some description her dinner would not be a complete one, though cake is considered an article for tea-tables alone.

Fig-cake is much liked for Thanksgiving, and one made after this recipe is excellent: Two cupfuls of sugar, three fourths of a cupful of butter, creamed, one cupful of sweet milk, two cupfuls of flour, one half cupful of corn-starch, three teaspoonfuls of baking-powder and the whites of six



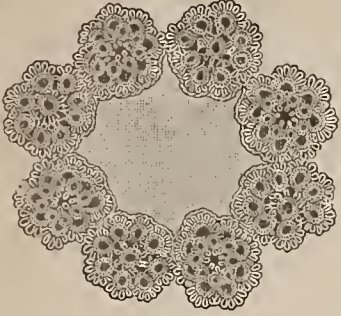
eggs. Add the beaten whites of eggs the last thing. Sift flour, baking-powder and corn-starch many times, that the mixing of these three articles may be thorough. Bake in two layers in large, long layer-cake tins. Put together with a filling of figs and frosting mixed. Stew the amount of figs wished until very tender; chop fine and add to the frosting made from the whipped white of an egg and one cupful of sugar. Frost the cake with a boiled icing.

NEDELIA HAMPTON.

DOILIES.

They will last awhile, I'm sure, for all sorts of new devices are being invented to perpetuate them. The two on linen are of the Bulgarian work in silk. This is the very latest embroidery, either in silk or wool.

The top one is worked in rich, dark green and gold; the pattern can be easily drawn by any one from the illustration of the working design. Place these around a circle as large as you care to use, and work solid, having the gold in the center. The other has a corner of lace-work and the silk around it. For these large openings there is a piece of lace that comes on purpose to use. Bulgarian work upon coarse linen is very much engaged in, and covers for tables with the one corner begun and all the material can be purchased at prices ranging from \$2.75 to \$4.50, according to size. The ones in blue are particularly lovely.



All sorts of tatting borders are used around doilies. The more original they are the better. A working-size wheel of tatting will be given in our next number, when we will have a number of suggestions for holiday gifts.

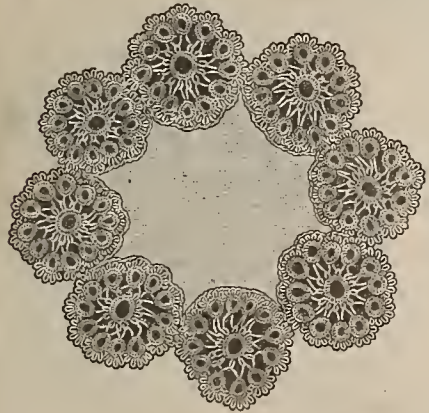
Any one wishing me to do shopping for them in any line for the holidays—books, dishes or merchandise of any kind—will please send soon enough to have them received in time. In care of this paper.

LOUISE LONG CHRISTIE.

PRETTY DISHES.

The love for pretty tableware amounts almost to a passion in the heart of the average housewife. It is said to be one of the weaknesses of our sex. But if weakness it is, we are pleased to note that, to a certain extent at least, it has been transmitted in quite a degree to "ye lords of creation" as well as to "ye ladies," if one may judge from the extravagant and exquisite fastidiousness of taste in selection of famous and fragile china by the late George W. Childs.

It is estimated that, at the least calculation, his collection of rare china cost the independent-fortune sum of forty thousand dollars. And to think there are thousands of ambitious and worthy housewives all over the world who would count themselves fortunate, and would be almost inexpressibly happy, could they own just



a pretty set of semi-porcelain. Note the contrast. But the world is full of contrasts, and of much more painful nature than this.

I have often wished, however, when reading of all these things, that the opportunity might be mine to distribute that forty thousand dollars into purchases of many "sets" of lesser value, and see many hearts made glad over really serviceable dishes that were not only coveted, but needed. That forty-thousand-dollar set was never used except upon state occasions, when famous dinners were given in entertainment of "notables." It was then the work of two skilled men to take entire charge of this valuable service, from the beginning to the end of the collation.

Sevres china is apparently considered the finest and most valuable of all china. Think of eight thousand dollars being paid for a set of jardinières, and seven thousand dollars for a more diminutive set of Sevres china. It would seem almost one of the "unpardonable sins," when covetous eyes and covetous hearts go looking in vain. But women like to read of all these unattainables, though there may not be the slightest prospect of possessing any of them in a whole long lifetime. For this reason we will visit some of the china-closets of others of the so-called "notables"

of the land, and take a peep at their rare and costly possessions.

The name of Astor is known throughout the world. More, though, from the fact of the name being synonymous with "millions," "fabulous wealth," etc., than for any other reason. Possibly Mrs. William Astor's almost priceless service of pure gold is as well known as her name. For it is famous and much quoted—and in all probability meat and potatoes served from those plates would possess almost as much virtue in flavor and hunger-satisfying qualities as if eaten from plates of common stoneware china. This set comprises thirty pieces, and cost the modest sum of sixty thousand dollars.

"To those that have, let more be given."

It is supposed that this set will descend to the son of the family, and his wife, although they already own a complete and beautiful gold service of their own.

Great, also, has been the ado made over the grand collection of tableware of Mrs. Potter Palmer. The greater part of these were purchased from representatives from all parts of the globe during the World's Fair, and represent an enormous sum of money. They are valuable, also, in points of skilled workmanship, quaintness, ingenuity and elegance. Many a foreign manufacturer profited by the wealth and the mania for "collections" and exquisite tableware that is a part of the nature of Mrs. Palmer, and her money is well distributed in nations other than ours.

Mrs. Frederic Grant has wonderful plate and china. Her collection began when a bride, in presents from her father and General Grant. And during her four years' sojourn abroad as wife of the Austrian minister she received many an additional odd piece of much value as gifts from wealthy and influential people.

The collection of china and plate at the White House is accredited precedence over that of any other in the world. It has been said that in itself it would almost form a museum. Begun by Martha Washington, and continually added to by every ruler of the land that has succeeded "The Father of Our Country" in his reign there, the silver and china closets have become a storehouse of wealth and of rare and beautiful pieces.

But down to terra firma again. Those things are not for you and I—except to read about them. So why not take a little thought of the less pretentious sets of dishes that do come, at least, a little nearer to the possibilities of the average purse. For from eight to fifteen dollars handsomely decorated sets are to be had, and any number of housewives are capable of earning them for themselves, if it is not convenient to obtain them from the family purse.

Sets of pure white in semi-porcelain are much in vogue, though the blue delft craze has not to any appreciable extent abated. Nor are sets in delicate colors and designs outmoded, and they are not likely to be for an indefinite time.

The pretty sets of dishes then secured and safely deposited in the china-closet or cupboard, the next question is the care of them. Shall you intrust them to other hands than your own? If you must, "woe be to you." For you will surely have cause to "weep bitter, heart-burning tears."

It was not the object of this article to enter one word of complaint against the little kitchen-maid—either yours or my own. But sad and expensive experience has taught that would one keep intact—minus "chips," cracks and broken handles—a set of breakable tableware, it was wise to vow a solemn vow, and keep it, that no "little maid in blue" or other garb should ever be given the care of it. One such set is a daily eyesore now, and another to take its place is numbered among the "must-haves" of the near future household expenses.

ELLA HOUGHTON.

A WEDDING AMONG THE GERMANS.

Through the kindness of her market-woman Mrs. Bliss, with a friend, was invited to go into what is known as Little Germany, a thickly settled German colony of the city of New York, to attend a church wedding and to go to the house where the supper was to be served.

The "weddingers," as they were called, were from among the working-class, but

"Mein Herr" bridegroom was above the ordinary class—he was a printer by trade.

The church was bright with candles and paintings, for although a Lutheran church, it was a very high church, as the market-woman explained.

The marriage was to have been at eight, but the party was late in coming, and at half-past eight the church-bells began to sound loudly and creak the old church-tower, until one was reminded of "Ring Out, Wild Bells," or of the "Ringing of the Bells of Heaven." Then the organ pealed forth, not in quiet strains, as in a church at home, but in the wildest and loudest tones possible. The bridegroom and best man and attendants all marched in and stood on one side of the middle aisle of the church, and the bride with her maids stood opposite in the same aisle, when they paired off and walked to the altar. The bride was dressed in white brocade, with a veil; while the attendants were ruddy-cheeked German girls in white mulls, with dashes of color in the ribbons about the neck and with roses in their hair. The marriage service was said and sung in German, and took just half an hour in time. The choir joined in a long hymn or two, much as in a Sunday service.

"Mein Herr" made a misstep and set his foot firmly on the long veil as he was trying to place the ring, and the bride could only be pacified after her maid assured her the veil was not falling off.

Mrs. Bliss could understand German, but her friend with her could not, and this friend failed to know when they were pronounced "husband and wife." She whispered to Mrs. Bliss to be sure she should tell her, but Mrs. Bliss smilingly



FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

replied, "Oh, that was long ago; the minister is giving the good advice this long while." After another hymn was sung and the prayer of benediction said, the minister whispered to the husband, and he followed him, as did his attendants, into a little room in which is kept the register. The time of their absence was used by the bridesmaids to each kiss the bride. At the return of the husband the bride was escorted into the small room to sign the register, but her "mann" could only accompany her to the door of the room.

Then they all left the church to go to the wedding feast. The rooms had been made ready for the new housekeepers, and the guests were entertained there.

Mashed potatoes, canned peas, cabbage and cold meats were served, while tea and coffee, beer and wine, flowed as the milk and honey of olden time.

There was a great variety of cakes, some very fanciful. One was decorated with a bell all set in frosting, another had a slipper set on top and frosted, while still another had a miniature bride and groom standing on a large loaf of cake.

Among the German cakes served were the "Springerle" and "Lap Kuchen." Immediately after the supper the bride very sensibly changed her white brocaded satin

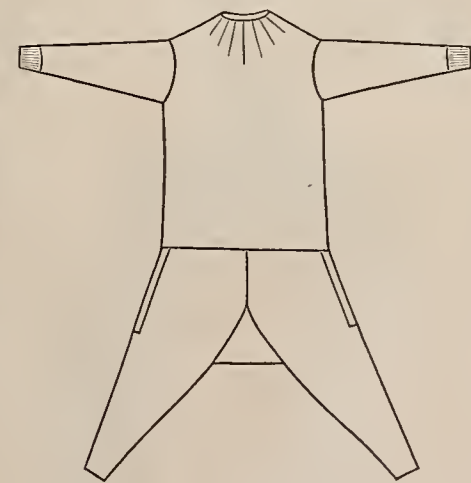


FIG. 3.

dress for a simple mull one, and joined in the dances.

While looking through an open door to watch the merriment, Mrs. Bliss asked the mother of the bride if she could not tell her how to make "Springerle" and "Lap Kuchen," and while she told Mrs. Bliss noted down the recipe.

SPRINGERLE.—

- 1 pound of flour,
- 1 pound of sugar,
- 4 large eggs,
- Butter size of walnut,
- Teaspoonful of baking-powder,
- Tablespoonful of aniseed.

Stir butter and sugar and eggs one quarter of an hour; then add flour, after flour knead well. Roll one half finger thick, cut where the roller or board has marked. This, the good woman explained, meant that one should have a special board or roller, it did not matter much which. If the roller, then it must be of hard wood and various patterns cut in it—hearts, diamonds, circles and all sorts of figures. If an ordinary rolling-pin was used, then one must have a prepared board, one of hard wood, and the different patterns cut in that. Indeed, the frau told where these utensils could be obtained, that bargains could be got by watching the sales. They use the same kind of boards or rolling-pins for "Lap Kuchen."

LAP KUCHEN.—

- 2 cupfuls of light syrup,
- ½ cupful of butter,
- 2 cupfuls of flour,
- 1 cupful of shelled almonds,
- 1 lemon,
- 1 ounce of soda dissolved in hot water,
- ½ ounce each of cloves, cinnamon and allspice.

Bring the butter and syrup to a boil, then add the almonds, cut fine, and when cold, add all the rest; mix well, and let stand all night; next morning roll a half inch thick, and bake in a moderate oven.

It is the fancy roller or board that gives the great variety to the shape of the cakes.

The bride's loaf was not cut that night, but was kept in reserve for the Sunday following the wedding-day, when the maids and best man and those that stood with the couple would be invited to supper and the cake served at that time. A healthy, happy company made up the wedding party that night, with the same hopeful prospects of young people everywhere.

Mrs. Bliss turned away thinking that love makes the "world all akin," and that to these foreigners in the land of America life is much the same. She knew that the warp-thread of their lives would probably be much the same as others, made up of health and sickness, joys and sorrows, but that the woof-thread that crosses the warp was in their own keeping, and according as they placed it would they make or break their lives. MARY JOSLYN SMITH.

FOR STORMY SATURDAYS.

Children after being in school all week are especially restless and hard to entertain upon a stormy Saturday, and the busy mother has little time to devote to them.

I have found the following game an admirable one for just such occasions:

The one who is "It"—and nothing pleases the little ones more than for mama to be the "It"—thinks of the name of some object, beast, bird or thing, then says, "Here am I."

Children—"Where did you come from?"

"I came from the country" (or city, or house, as the case might be).

Children—"What have you in your trunk?"

"Something that begins with the letter H" (or any other letter that suits the case).

Children—"Describe it."

"It has feathers, two eyes and two legs."

Children—"Some kind of a bird."

"What kind of a bird?"

Children—"A bluebird."

"No; a bluebird does not begin with H."

Children—"Can it fly very high?"

"No; it cannot. In fact, although belonging to the bird kingdom, it is not what you would call a bird."

A child—"Oh, I know; a hen."

The successful guesser then becomes the "It."

Mama will find that this game not only sharpens the wits of the children, but her own as well, for many will be the questions these bright little creatures will ask. Much information will thus be imparted.

Finding the Fip (we use a nickel). The nickel is placed in plain sight and the finder is told he is "hot" if near, and "cold" if far from it. Once it was in the tumbler of water and eluded the searcher for some time. Another time it was in the middle of the floor. Powers of observation are developed in finding the nickel, and ingenuity in hiding it in sight and yet not too plain.

Our Household.

THE BETTER WAY.

A grave old man and a maiden fair
Walked together at early morn;
The thrushes up in the clear, cold air
Sang to the farmer planting his corn.

And oh, how sweet was the fresh-turned mound!
And oh, how fair were budding trees!

For daisy's silver and daffodil's gold
Were full of the happy honey-bees.

"Ah, look! there's an empty nest," she said,
"And I wonder where sing the last year's birds?"

Then the old man quickly raised his head,
Though scarcely he noted her musing words;

He tore the nest from the swaying tree,
He flung to the winds its moss and hay,
And said, "When an empty nest you see,
Be sure that you throw it far away."

"But why?" she asked, with a sorrowing face—
"Why may not the pretty home abide?"
"Because," he answered, "it will be a place
In which the worm and the slug will hide;

Last year 'twas fair enough in its way—
It was full of love and merry with song;
But days that are gone must not spoil to-day,
Nor dead joys do the living joy wrong."

The maiden heard with a thoughtful face—
Her first sweet hope had fled far away—
And she thought, "Is my heart become a place
For anger, grief and hate to stay?"

Down, heart, with thy sad, forsaken nest;
Fling far thy selfish and idle pain;
The love that is yours is always the best,
And she went with a smile to her work again.
—The Angelus.

HOME DRESSMAKING.

PAPER V.—WAIST-FINISHING.

WAIST-finisher embraces all that pertains to the putting on of these dainty touches which distinguish the artistic creations of the modern modiste from those of the careless dressmaker. No detail is too small to be noticed by the artistic finisher. Collars are fastened with hooks and loops; the hooks being sewed on before the collar is faced, and the loops being carefully adjusted to the proper place after the collar is on and the waist has been tried on. Use hooks and eyes everywhere a fastening is needed, or loops if the eyes would show. Nothing is to be pinned.

Waists are faced in several ways, usually with a bias piece of the dress material. This may be first seamed on with the machine, the facing turned up and hemmed to the waist-lining, care being taken to prevent catching through the outside.

There are two methods of hemming. By the common method the waist is held toward the sewer and the stitch is the one ordinarily used in hemming. The other method is to lay the waist out on a low sewing-table or chair, the bottom toward the sewer in such a position that the edge to be hemmed is turned from the sewer. A rather long stitch is taken through the lining, the point of the needle just catching the edge of the facing. Fewer stitches are needed by this method than the other.

Another method of facing the waist is to turn up the raw edges at the bottom of the waist, the width of a wide seam, tacking securely at the seams, basting and pressing. Turn in both edges of the facing and baste flat on the bottom of the waist, being careful to hold the lower edge of the facing a little slack and at least an eighth of an inch from the bottom of the waist. Hem down both edges of the facing, and press well with a hot iron before basting are removed. The raw edge at the neck should be finished with a narrow binding of lining, cut lengthwise to prevent stretching.

The collar should be made separately, and securely tacked in place by stitches at the lower edge of neck-binding, catching only through the lining or facing at the lower edge of the collar. The collar should be made over a stiffening especially made for this purpose; the stiffening being cut the exact size desired. Cover the outside of the collar stiffening with any material desired, securing it on the inside with a lacing-stitch, carefully tacking the folded-in corners. Face with thin silk. The facing with the edges turned in should be slightly smaller than the collar and should be neatly hemmed down, after which the collar should be pressed. The bottom of sleeves may be faced with a facing interlined with haircloth. Sleeve-seams may be pressed on a padded broomstick in the absence of a sleeve-board. If the inside sleeve-seam draws at the elbow when pressed open, the same should be slashed at that point.

Pointed revers lying over the shoulders

are usually stiffened with haircloth or linen canvas, and smoothness further insured by a small piece of whalebone cat-stitched to this stiffening.

The methods of application of the various sorts of garniture should be carefully studied, not for the purpose of blindly imitating, but with a view of discovering the best way.

Successful dressmaking requires as much earnest, progressive study as successful work in any of the professions.

Dame Fashion may be a frivolous goddess, but she furnishes the means of subsistence to thousands of earnest workers, both men and women. LUCY C.

FRUIT AS A DESSERT—BANANAS.

1. Bananas (with whipped cream).
2. Banana Gelatin.
3. Banana Pudding.
4. Banana Custard.
5. Banana Pie.
6. Banana Cake.
7. Fried Bananas.
8. Baked Bananas.

Bananas are a healthful and popular fruit, judging from the quantities sold and the moderate prices which prevail at almost any time during the year. When the fruit is to be served whole (passed at the table), care should be taken to select only the perfect fruit, which must not alone present a fair exterior, but which should be perfectly ripe. The large red bananas, not quite so common as the yellow, are to be preferred for serving whole, although they are a little more expensive and sometimes are not easy to procure. Of course, when not available, the yellow banana furnishes a fair substitute.

When selecting bananas for nearly all other desserts such perfect fruit is not required; in fact, many times the bananas that are ripe enough to darken at the edges of the skin, which naturally detracts from their appearance and money value, are often the most fit for use, because they are sure to be fully ripe. The banana pulp itself must of course be solid and perfect.

BANANAS, WITH WHIPPED CREAM.—The cream (which will whip quicker if cold) should be whipped to a stiff consistency, and sweetened to taste with two or three tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar (more or less as required for the quantity of cream used), and flavored with flavoring extract to taste, vanilla being preferred, as a rule. Peel and slice your bananas into a large dessert-dish. Place your whipped cream in its individual serving-dish. At the table the bananas should be served to each one, and the whipped cream passed from plate to plate, in order that each person may take as much or as little cream as he or she may desire. Both the whipped cream and the bananas are better if kept in a cool place before preparing and serving.

BANANA GELATIN.—Soak the ordinary package of gelatin in one pint of cold water for one half hour or more, after which add one and one half pints of hot water to dissolve the gelatin. Stir well, and sweeten to taste with sugar. Into this slice (after peeling) about six or eight bananas, according to size. The acid of the gelatin itself, combined with the decided flavor of the bananas, is sufficient flavoring in itself. A nice way to vary this dish is to use one half the quantity of sliced bananas and two or three sliced oranges. This combination is exceedingly agreeable, and preferred by many to the plain banana gelatin. This dish should be made the day before using, and kept on ice or in a cool place.

BANANA PUDDING.—Prepare an ordinary corn-starch pudding, using two heaping tablespoonfuls of corn-starch (wet first with a little milk), one quart of milk, butter the size of a walnut, a pinch of salt, two eggs (beaten well); the whole to be sweetened to taste with about four tablespoonfuls of sugar, and flavored to taste with about one teaspoonful of vanilla extract. Put your milk into a saucepan over the fire, and when it reaches a boiling heat add all the other ingredients, and stir until thick. Slice your bananas into the dish in which you intend to serve your dessert, and pour over them the corn-starch pudding as above prepared. This dish is excellent served either hot or cold.

BANANA CUSTARD.—Take two tablespoonfuls of corn-starch (wet first with enough water to dissolve it), one cupful of granulated sugar, one third of a cupful of butter; stir together in an earthen dish or pudding-mold, and pour on enough boiling water to make a thick custard. You

must then beat the whites of three eggs to snow, and stir same into the custard, which is to be set in the oven and baked for fifteen minutes. Some people prefer to cook their custard in a pot or vessel of boiling water, which requires about the same length of time. When the custard is perfectly cold, the crust should be removed. Mince your bananas, and mix them with your custard; then pour the whole into the dish in which you are to serve your dessert. A fancy meringue made of the beaten whites of two or three eggs and sweetened with pulverized pink or white sugar is added to the custard, making a very dainty and appetizing dish.

BANANA PIE.—It is very seldom that one is treated with this dish, as there are so many other kinds of pies simpler to make and not so rich. Prepare a custard similar to the one just described above, omitting the meringue, of course; mix this with the pulp of your bananas, and press the whole mixture through a colander or sieve. Then prepare your pie-crust, the single crust, fill it with the banana custard, and finish off with your meringue as in lemon pie.

BANANA LAYER CAKE.—This appears to be a great favorite with young people, who above all things like home-made cake that is wholesome and yet not too plain. Cream together one cupful of sugar and one half cupful of butter; add five eggs (well beaten, and reserving the whites of three for the cake filling). Also add three fourths of a cupful of milk, two cupfuls of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking-powder (mixed first with the flour) and one and one half teaspoonfuls of vanilla. Bake in four separate tins, as this mixture will make a cake of four layers.

For the filling which is to go between the layers use the three whites of eggs (previously reserved), beaten stiff, adding two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar and one half teaspoonful of vanilla. Spread this between the layers with bananas sliced thinly, leaving the top of the cake to be covered with an icing, which is made by mixing a little confectionery sugar with enough milk to make it of such consistency as to spread easily; flavor it to taste with a little vanilla extract, and then spread it over the top layer of the cake. It is hardly necessary to add that when serving this cake a fork should be laid at each plate, because of the banana filling.

While the two recipes to follow are not exactly fruit desserts, they are still ways of using bananas, and perhaps will not be inappropriate in this article. It is claimed by certain authorities that the banana is an excellent article of food because of its nourishing qualities, and people are urged to use this fruit frequently when baked. The directions given were to bake the banana in the oven for about twenty minutes, when its pulp would become soft, puffy and even mealy. Then serve.

FRIED BANANAS are said to be excellent. After peeling your bananas, slice them the long way of the fruit, and fry them in butter, after which sprinkle them with sugar. They are now ready for serving.

In collecting and preparing these recipes a medium quantity of ingredients is called for, and in some cases I have even omitted the quantity of fruit to be used, leaving this latter, as well as the recipe itself, to be gaged by the knowledge that the average housewife possesses as to the needs and requirements of her family. For instance, she will know at once whether a custard requiring one quart of milk will be too much or not enough, and so on.

It is not to be supposed that every one of the above recipes will be liked by all, as some people prefer one kind of dessert which perhaps others do not care for at all, but it is probable that the housewife will find at least a few to her liking.

EMMA LOUISE HAUCK.

IVORY SOAP



The Traveler who would thoroughly enjoy his toilet and bath must carry a half cake in his toilet case.

PIE-CRUST FOR BURNS.

Nothing in the world is better for a burn, however severe, or a scald, however deep, than a preparation made as for pie-crust, omitting the salt. Every one knows that lard and flour rubbed together thoroughly is good, but the difficulty with that is it so quickly rubs off. If water be mixed with these two ingredients and the whole rolled out thin and placed over the burn or scald as quickly as possible, and allowed to remain until it drops off, neither inflammation nor scar will remain. A second application is sometimes necessary. E. B. S.

LIGHTNING BUTTER MAKER.

BUTTER MADE IN TWO MINUTES.

I have tried the Lightning Butter Maker you described in your paper, and it is a wonder. I can make butter in two minutes, and it is elegant. You get more butter than when you use a common churn. I took the agency and every butter maker that sees it buys one. I have done splendid, and made as high as \$38 a week. I have sold three dozen, and they give the best of satisfaction. I know I can sell one hundred in this township as they make butter so quickly, and make so much more than common churns and are so cheap. Some one in every township can make \$200 or \$300 selling them. By writing to W. H. Baird & Co., 140 S. Highland Ave., Sta. A, Pittsburg, Pa., you can get circulars and full information so you can make big money right at home. I have made \$60 in the past two weeks, and I never sold anything before in my life.



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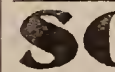
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Our Sunday Afternoon.

AWAKE AND WATCH.

Awake and watch! the light is dawning;
Awake! the night will soon be gone;
In orient sky there gleams the morning—
Arise and gird thine armor on!
Awake! the night will soon be gone;
Arise, and gird thine armor on!

The Day Star bright o'er thee is shining—
Awake and hail the coming day!
Renew thy strength, cease all repining,
Awake, arise and watch and pray.
Awake and hail the coming day;
Awake, arise and watch and pray.

There waits for thee a heavenly greeting;
Haste, then, thy Master's call obey.
Soon, soon shall end thy night of weeping,
Thy God shall wipe thy tears away.
Haste, then, thy Master's call obey—
Thy God shall wipe thy tears away.

The King! the King! the call comes ringing,
O church of Christ! O Zion free!
Look up, and join the heavenly singing;
Thy King is coming soon for thee.
O church of Christ! O Zion free!
Thy King is coming soon for thee.
—Lucy D. Harrington, in Our Hope.

SYSTEMATIC PLAN OF GIVING.

REV. J. B. GRENELL, D.D., in an article in the "Baptist Union" on the above subject, presents a specimen account, such as will enable persons desiring to follow a systematic plan of giving to keep a simple account:

SPECIMEN ACCOUNT.

1894.		D'p.	P'd.	Bal.
Jan.				
6	Wages, \$7.50.....	.75		
7	Church.....		.50	.25
7	Sunday-school.....		.05	.20
10	Poor boy.....		.10	.10
13	Wages, \$7.50.....	.75		
14	Church.....		.50	.35
14	Sunday-school.....		.05	.30
17	Extra work, \$1.50.....	.15		.45
20	Wages, \$7.50.....	.75		1.20
21	Church.....		.50	.70
21	Sunday-school.....		.10	.60
23	Poor family.....		.25	.35
24	Gift from A. B. C., \$2.00.....	.20		.55
27	Wages, \$7.50.....	.75		1.30
28	Church.....		.50	.80
28	Foreign mission collection.....		.50	.30
28	Sunday-school.....		.05	.25
28	Young people's society.....		.10	.15

It is explained that "D'p" stands for money deposited, or set aside, for the Lord's service, and that the account shows how much there is on hand at any time waiting to be bestowed. Such an account helps insure the carrying out of the pledge, and gives an opportunity for such reviews of the gifts given as may help correct any failure to cover proportionately all the proper "objects." In the above illustration foreign missions come into January, and therefore home missions or some other will come into February.

It is found that many of those who are ready to join this movement have adopted the principle before, and have been quietly acting upon it. Their testimony as to the satisfaction there is in doing this duty by system is confirmatory of what the Scriptures teach.

There is no copyright on this plan. Let him who likes it use it or make it the basis of something better.

DOING, NOT THINKING.

Doing, not dreaming, is the secret of success. Thinking out plans will not amount to anything unless the thought be followed by determined will to execute. Not the faithful talker, but the faithful toiler, leaves the broad mark of work accomplished. "Not he that saith Lord, Lord, but he that doeth my Father's will." Not the son that promised, but he that went, was the one who received the reward. "This one thing I do," not "This one thing I think," made a Paul. "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily." Going about continually doing good was the example left by Christ; and the promise is given, "To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life."—Parish Visitor.

REST BEFORE EATING.

Edward Everett Hale's advice to brain-workers and over-energetic women is to "rest, rest, rest; not all the time, but before eating. Ten minutes' rest before eating is a necessity. You should never eat when you are 'dead' tired, but wait until the machine is rested." The application of this admonition to shoppers who remain on the go until the last possible minute and then hurry down to dinner should be very evident.

TRIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Try to be satisfied to commence on a small scale.
Try not to look at richer homes and covet their costly furniture.
Try being perfectly independent from the first, and shun debt in all its forms.
Try to cultivate the moral courage that will resist the arrogance of fashion.
Try to avoid the too common mistake of making an unwise effort to "begin where the parents ended."
Try going a step further, and visit the homes of the suffering poor when secret dissatisfaction is liable to spring up.
Try to co-operate cheerfully in arranging the family expenses, and share equally in any necessary self-denials and economies.
Try buying all that is necessary to work with skilfully, while adorning the house at first with simply what will render it comfortable.
Try to remember that it matters but little what "people think," provided you are true to yourself, to right and duty, and keep your expenses within your means.—Somerville Journal.

PATIENCE.

Be patient toward all men. The cold hammer fashions the hot iron. He who would govern others must first learn to govern himself. Passion is blind. Cool, deliberate and at the same time energetic action makes itself felt in every department of life.
Be patient toward your brethren. Some men are slow to see into good things. They want to do right, but it takes them a good while to determine what is required of them. Every member of the body of Christ is not an eye. To get out of patience with these dull ones will not help either them or you. Give them time and they will do their duty. We all have our infirmities. Let us bear with each other.
To be patient you must have patience. The stream cannot flow if the fountain is dry. The fruit will not grow without the tree. Resolutions alone against impatience will not answer. You must pray as well as resolve. Ask God not merely to help you in your outward conduct, but to give you the inward grace. Unless you get that, you will fail as you have failed before. Be determined on victory in this.

HOW TO REACH THE BEST.

The way to get the best there is in people is to give them your best. Don't expect others to be sweet and polite and thoughtful so long as you adhere to the selfish principle that people must "take you as they find you." When your friends begin to grow careless and disrespectful, stop and ask yourself whether you are not getting back a reflection of yourself. A young wife complained to her husband that he smoked in her presence. "You never used to do it," she said. "No," was the significant rejoinder, "and you never used to wear curl-papers in mine."—The Lookout.

ASK GREAT THINGS.

In 1900 years there has never been a failure of any promise of Christ when the conditions have been complied with. There have been failures everywhere else and in almost everything, but there never has and never will be a failure on the part of Christ. If there has been any failure, we may rest assured that it has been with us, and not with our Jesus. We have asked much and received much, but in the place of being weary with our asking, Jesus is constantly saying to us, "Ask largely, that your joy may be full."—Christian Statesman.

DEFINITION OF SCIENCE.

In an address at the opening of the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Detroit, Mich., August 9th, Hon. Thomas W. Palmer gave a new definition of science. "Science," he said, "is the classification of phenomena to the end that general principles may be established and declared, from which rules of action may be deduced for application in particular cases."

HALF FARE TO URBANA.

On account of the Union Veteran and Woman's Relief Union, agents of the C. H. & D. Ry., in Ohio, will sell tickets to Urbana and return at one fare for the round trip on October 18th and 19th, good until October 22d.

Enameline



The Modern STOVE POLISH.

DUSTLESS, ODORLESS, BRILLIANT, LABOR SAVING.
Try it on your Cycle Chain.
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FREE A sample copy of Our Little Folks Magazine will be sent free to any mother who will send her address. A 24-page magazine for the little ones under 10 years of age. It contains beautiful pictures, simple stories. Large type, fine paper and handsome cover. Address **P.W. RAIDABAUGH, 98 Market St., Chicago, Ill.**

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Boys and Girls can get a Nickel-Plated Watch, also a Chain and Charm for selling 14 doz. Packages of Blaine at 10 cents each. Send your full address by return mail and we will forward the Blaine, post-paid, and a large Premium List. No money required. **BLUINE CO., Box 84, Concord Junction, Mass.**

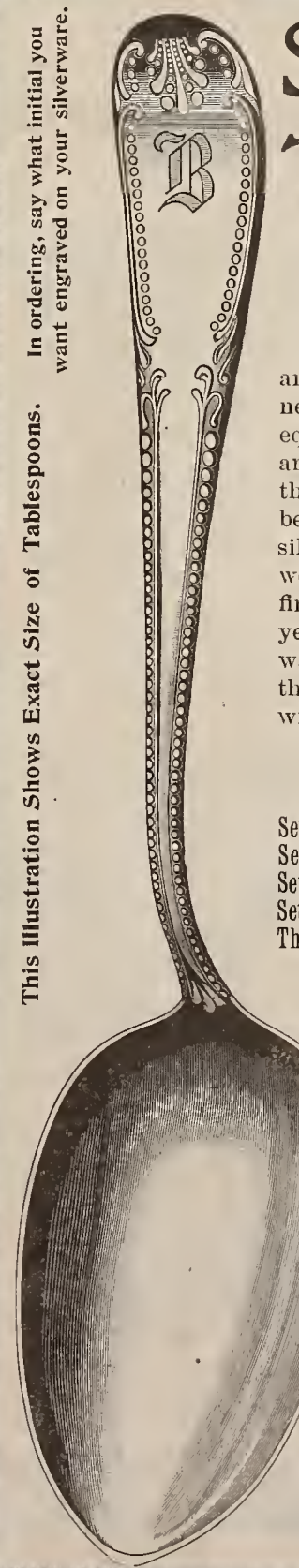
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This silverware can be used in cooking, eating and medicines the same as solid silver. It will never—cannot—corrode or rust. Teaspoons of equal merit are sold in jewelry-stores for \$1.50 and \$2.00 a set; but because we buy direct from the manufacturers in enormous quantities, and because we do not make any profit on this silverware (the subscription is what we want), we furnish it at a great bargain. In beauty and finish it is perfect, and for daily use, year after year, there is nothing better. The base of this ware is solid nickel-silver, which is silver color through and through. The base is well plated with coin-silver, and will last a lifetime.

OUR OFFERS.

Set of 6 Tablespoons, and This Paper One Year, \$1.25
Set of 6 Teaspoons, and This Paper One Year, .75
Set of 6 Forks, and this Paper One Year, 1.25
Set of 6 Knives, and This Paper One Year, 2.00
The Sugar-shell and the Butter-knife (both), and This Paper One Year, .50

GRAND COMBINATION OFFER.
If ordered at one time and to one address, we will send the set of 6 tablespoons, set of 6 teaspoons, set of 6 forks, set of 6 knives, 1 butter-knife and 1 sugar-shell, 26 pieces in all, and this paper one year, for FIVE DOLLARS.

INITIAL LETTER Each and every piece of this tableware, except the six knives, will be engraved free of charge with an initial letter in Old English.

WILL STAND ANY TEST.
To test this silverware, use a file. If not found as represented, we will refund your money and make you a present of the subscription. If returned to us we will replace, free of charge, the piece of ware damaged in making the test, provided you tell some of your neighbors what the test proved.

When any of the above offers are accepted no commission is allowed and the names cannot count in a club, but the paper will be sent to one address and the premium to another if so desired.

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Our Miscellany.

FATHER—"Tommy, stop pulling that cat's tail."

Tommy—"I'm only holding the tail; the cat's pulling it."—Life.

MR. OLDBY—"I am a self-made man, sir. I began life as a barefoot boy."

Kennard—"Well, I wasn't born with shoes on, either."—Boston Guardian.

"WHAT are pauses?" the teacher asked the first class in grammar.

"Things that grow on cats and dogs," answered the smallest girl.—New York Journal.

CURATE'S LITTLE GIRL—"My hen has laid an egg."

Vicar's little girl—"My hen has laid two."

Bishop's little girl—"That's nothing; my father has laid a foundation stone."

YOUNG HUSBAND—"Dear, what was that white powder you dropped into the fire?"

Young wife (cooking)—"That was baking-powder, stupid! I'm ready to put the cake in the oven."—New York Evening World.

A SCHOOL-TEACHER at Port Allegheny, N. Y., the other day received the following note: "My boy tells me that when I drink beer der overcoat vrom my stummack gets too thick. Please be so kind and don't interfere in my family affairs."

A WISE woman who believes it is a sin to go on doing things in the old clumsy way, after a new idea has been proven good, cleans her window-glass and mirrors by saturating tissue-paper with coal-oil and rubbing them briskly, polishing off with a soft, clean cloth. She says that flies do not trouble her much in summer, either, when she cleans her windows and paint with coal-oil.

Mr. J. S. Leahy, General Southern Agent C. H. & D. Ry., with headquarters at Fourth and Vine streets, Cincinnati, Ohio, has been appointed agent for the Washington and Alaska Steamship Company, and will handle this business in connection with C. H. & D. Ry. business to Alaska. Their steamers "City of Seattle" and "Rosalie" are giving service every 5 or 6 days to Alaska, and will run through the winter. They are magnificent steel steamers and make the run from Puget Sound to Dyea and Skaguay in 70 hours. Splendid accommodation for 500 passengers, fitted with electric-light and every comfort for passengers. These steamers sail under the American flag.

DEACON WHITEHEAD—"Now, dew tell me, Miss Prisms, why ye wear them leather gloves this hot weather?"

Miss Prisms—"I wear them because they make my hands white as snow."

Deacon Whitehead—"Well, now, ain't it astonishing that I never knew about that. An' I've been got darned fool enough ter wear a leather cap all my life."

CRIPPLE CREEK INVESTMENTS.

Big fortunes have been made by a small investment in Cripple Creek stocks, and the way many have suddenly acquired wealth would make interesting reading. We can not here go into details, but if you will write us we will suggest a plan that will materially improve your pecuniary condition. We have something special to offer, and it will cost you nothing to send us your name and get on our list for Cripple Creek literature. Our facilities in the stock business are unexcelled. Address The Mechem Investment Company, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

SHE HAD HIM THERE.

"Talk about consistency," he said, savagely; "a woman never knows her own mind from one day's end to another. Why, within a week of our wedding you insisted that you wouldn't marry the best man who ever lived."

"Well," she remarked, sweetly, "I didn't."—Chicago Times-Herald.

THEOLOGY.

Ethel—"Didn't grandpapa go to heaven, mama?"

Mama—"Yes; I hope so."

Ethel—"Then why did they put 'Peace to his ashes' on his tombstone? People who go to heaven don't have ashes, do they?"—Pick-Me-Up.

HE KEPT HIS WORD.

"Her husband said, when she married him, his love would be unremitting."

"Did he keep his word?"

"Yes; he has never given her a cent."—New York Times.

NEWLY CLASSIFIED.

"Mrs. Wiggins is a Nebuchadnezzar widow."

"What kind of a widow is that?"

"Grass, of course."—Chicago Record.

I had a severe attack of La Grippe. My Cough was something terrible. Doctors failed to give me any relief, and I have no hesitation in saying that YOUR EXPECTORANT SAVED MY LIFE.—J. E. HOISLEY, New Holland, O., Nov. 5, 1895. For constipation, take Jayne's Painless Sensitive Pills.

30% PROFIT PER ANNUM

is assured, and chance for large further gains offered by the United States Tunnel, Mining, Milling, Drainage, and Transportation Company, of Idaho Springs, Colorado. This Company now offers for sale to shrewd investors a limited amount of treasury stock (par value \$1.00 per share), at 50 cents on the dollar. All money thus obtained will be applied to the rapid development of the tunnel, erection of mill and smelting machinery, electric light works, etc.

The Company owns (1) the United States Tunnel, secured by U. S. laws, situated in Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, Colorado. The tunnel begins at Hukill Gulch, half a mile from the town of Idaho Springs (36 miles by railroad from Denver), and runs through Bellevue Mountain, under the rich group of mines at the head of Virginia Canon, across the most productive part of Russell District, through the very heart of Quartz Hill, and into the midst of the best mines of Gunnell and Eureka. The entire distance is three and a quarter miles, and from mouth to terminus the tunnel runs through continuous gold-producing territory, found in true fissure veins. Of the gold-bearing veins directly crossed by the tunnel, 114 have been already developed and patented, and as many more have been discovered and worked. It has already cut two blind lodes, which assay well in gold, and will pay for working. Work on the tunnel was begun in 1895, and has been continued since. 500 feet have been already completed, and a railroad tramway has been laid the full distance. The United States Tunnel is a

TUNNEL THROUGH A GOLD MOUNTAIN

for Bellevue Mountain undoubtedly is the richest gold district in the world.

(2) Fifteen Mines, each 1,500 feet on the lode by 150 feet in width, located on the line of the tunnel. Ore rich in gold has already been struck in several of these mines, and the Omaha, Wabash, Big Four, and Gazette are particularly promising. They have each shafts from 15 to 20 feet deep, and the veins thereon are from four to five feet wide, and assay from \$7.00 to \$21.00 in gold. (3) The mill site, consisting of 53 acres of patented ground, immediately adjoining the town of Idaho Springs, and close to the Colorado Central Railroad. This site is ample for mills, smelting and all other purposes. (4) Water privileges covering the water rights on South Clear and Chicago Creek, giving 200 horse power, sufficient for all company purposes.

The objects of the Company are: (1) To afford much better facilities for economically working rich mines along the line of the tunnel. (2) To discover, cross cut and work newly discovered lodes. (3) To erect stamps and concentrating mills and smelting works on the Company's mill site for the treatment and reduction of ores, both from the Company's mines and from other mines connected with the tunnel. (4) To furnish electric light, electric and other power to the various mines along the line of the tunnel. (5) To transport to the mines timber, mine supplies and workmen. Working a rich district through a shaft is like making a hole in the roof of a well-filled barn, and by means of a ladder carrying out the wheat, corn, horses, sleds, etc. A tunnel affords an entrance like a barn door, and the minerals may be easily extracted by its means.

BETTER THAN KLONDIKE.

None of the numerous Klondike companies now asking for the hard earned savings of the American public have anything more tangible to offer than an expedition sent out to discover claims. We offer SURELY A SAFE CONSERVATIVE BUSINESS, PERHAPS A BONANZA.

Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, in Colorado, produced precious metals in the past five years valued at \$29,253,635, according to the official statistics, 70% of this being in gold. The United States Tunnel cross cuts mines that produced 45% of this, or \$13,500,000.

Instead of working from the surface of the mountain, these mines can conduct all operations from the tunnel at a tremendous saving in expense. Whereas it now costs \$8.53 per ton to produce the gold, a careful estimate shows that, worked through the tunnel, it would cost only \$4.77 per ton. Of course, the various mines would gladly pay fair royalties to take advantage of this enormous saving.

Professor S. W. Tyler, the celebrated mining engineer of Denver, Colorado, a graduate of the Universities of Goettingen and Freiburg, Germany, in an exhaustive report on the United States Tunnel, gives the following as a conservative estimate of the yearly revenue and profit of the Company, exclusive of the Company's mines:

SOURCE.	INCOME.	PROFIT.	PRICE
SAFE AS A GOVERNMENT BOND			50 CENTS A SHARE IF BOUGHT NOW
Hauling	\$613,200	\$306,600	
Drainage	50,000	50,000	
Power Supply	100,000	50,000	
Royalties	100,000	100,000	
Milling (1,500 tons daily)	821,250	273,750	
Total	\$1,684,450	\$780,350	

which is sufficient to pay an annual dividend of 15% on the par value of stock, or 30% on the present investment. 15% to 30% additional may be confidently expected from the results of working the company's own mines.

RELIABLE, TRUSTWORTHY MANAGEMENT.

The President of the Company is Mr. Edward A. Quintard, the well known President of the Citizens Savings Bank, New York City, and the Directors are E. A. Quintard; F. Baltes, Bank President, New York City; William L. Wood, Cashier Bank of Jamaica, Jamaica, N. Y.; Alexander R. Hart, President Long Island Electric Railway Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Juan C. Abel, Publisher of the Nickel Magazine, Boston, Mass.; William E. Lown, President Tidal Oil Co., New York City; James C. Fagan, Idaho Springs, Colorado; Homer A. Hoyt, New York City; Charles E. Jackson, banker, Middletown, Conn.

The gentlemen composing the Board of Directors are all men of unquestioned integrity and large business experience in successful ventures, and afford absolute guarantee that the affairs of the Company will be honestly, skilfully, and economically conducted for the benefit of all the stockholders. This Company offers a safe investment, with opportunities for large and steadily increasing profits for an indefinite period, and invites the fullest investigation. It is not an untried scheme, but a legitimate, conservative enterprise.

The stock is fully paid and non-assessable, and subject to no further call.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE. For every two shares you wish to purchase, remit \$1 by money order, bank check or draft; thus \$5 will buy ten shares, \$10 will buy twenty shares, etc. Make all checks and drafts payable to William E. Lown, Treasurer. Stock certificates will be sent you by return mail. Write your name and address very plainly. Prospectus sent on application, but as amount of stock for sale at the present price is strictly limited, it is advisable not to delay, but subscribe now. Address the eastern office,

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In every city or township to look after my business, on salary or commission; steady work and liberal pay the year round. One man cleared \$140.45 last week. Places for a few ladies. Don't delay or bother to send stamps, but write at once to J. W. JONES, Springfield, Ohio.

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

To Stuff Birds and Animals.—C. E. B., Chebanse, Ill. For a manual of instruction for preparing and preserving birds and animals, send 50 cents to Lee & Shepard, Boston, Mass., for "Taxidermy without a Teacher."

Best Time to Plant Strawberries.—Mrs. M. J. S., Yazoo City, Miss. For your locality August or September would be a good time to set strawberry-plants, provided you can get good ones at that time. On general principles we prefer spring to fall planting.

Ever-bearing Strawberry and Loganberry Plants.—G. W. P., San Felipe, Texas. Never heard of the Cooney Ever-bearing strawberry. The only strawberry-plant that deserves the name ever-bearing is the Alpine a native of the mountain districts of Europe; plant somewhat small, a free runner, although there are also bush sorts of this kind; fruit small, very aromatic and rich, borne from regular strawberry season until fall. All leading nurserymen catalogue the Loganberry.

To Eradicate Live-for-ever.—W. A. W., Herricksville, Pa., writes: "Tell how to kill live-for-ever in meadow."

REPLY:—As live-for-ever is a perennial weed that spreads both by seeds and root-stocks, there is no easy way to kill it without plowing up the meadow. Thorough cultivation of the land in such crops as corn and potatoes will eradicate it. It is, however, subject to a fungous disease that kills it. If you can find anywhere plants affected with this disease, you can inoculate the plants in your meadows by placing diseased plants among them; and in time the weed will be destroyed by the spread of the disease.

Liming Land.—A. S., Pittsburgh, Pa., writes: "The soil on my property is very tough and hakes very hard. Please advise me if slaked lime would be a good thing to loosen it up, and if so, about how much I should use."

REPLY:—Lime acts beneficially on heavy clay soils, rendering them porous and liberating locked-up plant-foods. Apply broadcast from fifty to one hundred bushels of fresh-air-slaked lime to the acre. Then grow clover and till this soil with humus. Possibly your land needs tile-drainage. If so, do that first. If not, we advise that you experiment with lime and grow clover.

Cement Floor for Cellars.—E. H., New York. To two parts of sharp sand, perfectly clean and free from clay, add one part of Portland cement, and thoroughly mix them dry. Just before use add water enough to make a thin paste; to this add gravel and small stone, stirring thoroughly until they are well coated with the paste. As soon as mixed spread a layer of this concrete on the cellar floor about three or four inches thick, and pack with a heavy rammer. Over this spread a thin layer of the cement paste; after smoothing, dust the wet surface with pure, dry cement, to get a fine, white finish. As this concrete hardens rapidly, prepare at one time only what can be handled quickly.

Stumps.—W. B. C., Shell Lake, Wis., writes: "I have a piece of ground that is studded with large, fine stumps. Is there any known preparation to put in (or on) them that will burn them out? Dynamite will blow them out, but is rather expensive. Some say bore a hole and put in saltpeter, and plug up hole; let stand six months, when they will burn out. I have not tried it yet. If you know of any tried way of getting rid of them, kindly publish it later."

REPLY:—The saltpeter method is an old one, but we have never heard that it is a successful one. The following plan of burning out stumps is highly recommended, and we suggest that you try it: Make a sheet-iron cylinder with conical top large enough to inclose a big stump, fixing the top to take an eight-inch stovepipe four or five feet high. Set this over a stump, at one side dig away a little earth underneath to the base of the stump, and start a fire. Add a little fuel until the stump is well lighted, and it will burn out to the roots.

Keeping a Cow.—M. A. B., Bowie, Md., writes: "I live in a country-village, and have to buy my milk and butter. My family consists of my wife, two children and myself. My bill for milk and butter is about two dollars and a half a month, and we have milk only for coffee. Would it be cheaper for me to keep a cow? What will it cost, feeding her on such as corn-meal, cut hay, wheat bran and middlings, which are most convenient for me to get?"

REPLY:—Correct answers to your questions depend on individual and local conditions. If good summer pasture is convenient, if you have comfortable winter quarters for a cow, if the foods named are not too high-priced, if you have the time to attend to the work properly, and a liking for it, in brief, if all conditions are favorable, you would find it profitable to keep a good cow. If such conditions are lacking, you would find it unprofitable. For a family of four your monthly bill for milk and butter is very moderate. If you kept a cow, the family would undoubtedly consume more milk, cream and butter, and probably less of some other less wholesome foods. A good cow would supply the family abundantly and give a surplus of milk to sell. And you would find that it would save housework and pay better to sell the surplus fresh milk and buy the butter used. The sale of two or three quarts of fresh milk a day will probably cover the cost of feeding the cow; but as to the cost of keeping cows in your locality, consult with neighbors who keep them.

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VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Wart on the Base of the Ear.—O. A., Wise, Texas. If the wart situated at the base of the ear of your mule has a neck, apply a ligature as tight as possible and as close to the skin as it can be done. If it has not, and is more or less flat, have it removed by an application of caustics or by means of the surgical knife. If the latter is used it will probably be necessary to cauterize the wound immediately after the operation has been performed either with a red-hot iron or with some caustic. Please consult the numerous answers that have recently been given to "wart questions."

A Malignant Growth.—J. L. C., Adin, Cal. The sore on the upper lip of your mare, according to your description, appears to be of the nature of a malignant growth; still, it is possible that the papulae which make their appearance are only the product of a too luxuriant granulation (so-called "prond flesh"). If such is the case, an application twice a day of a mixture of iodoform and tannic acid, equal parts, will probably bring the sore to a healing. If this treatment should prove to be unsuccessful, it must be presumed that the sore is of a malignant (cancerous) character, and hardly anything will be left but to apply the same mixture prescribed for a "malignant wart," in answer to an inquiry by J. H. G., Swansea, S. C.; but this mixture, on account of its exceedingly poisonous properties must be applied with the greatest care, and not be smeared into the mare's mouth.

Probably Mange.—J. A. W., Cotter, Iowa. What you describe appears to be a case of mange. Wash your mare most thoroughly with soap and warm water, and then, before the animal is perfectly dry, apply a good wash with a five-per-cent solution of creolin in warm water. Repeat this treatment once every five days until a cure has been effected. Still, unless each time the treatment is applied the stall as well as all stable utensils which come in contact with the horse, such as brush and currycomb, the halter, blankets, harness, etc., are also thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, all efforts to effect a cure will be in vain; while on the other hand two or three applications will be sufficient if no mistakes are made. I will yet draw your attention to the fact that even the clothing of the person who takes care of the mare may become infected, and if not cleaned will be able to cause a reinfection of the animal.

A "Malignant Wart."—J. H. G., Swansea, S. C. If the so-called "malignant wart" on the inside of the hind leg of your horse is not too large and the damage produced not irreparable, it can be permanently removed in the following way: Get in a drug-store a mixture composed of finely powdered arsenious acid, two drams, caustic potash, one dram, powdered gum arabic, two drams, and distilled water, three drams; have the whole thoroughly mixed and put up in a salt-mouthed vial, and then carefully apply the mixture by means of a flat stick (a wooden spatulum) to the whole surface of the wart, but nowhere else, and be careful not to get it on your hands, because the mixture, as the druggist also will not fail to inform you, is exceedingly poisonous and corrosive. After it has thus been applied, cover the whole with a thin layer of absorbent cotton, tie the horse in such a way that he cannot reach the wart with his mouth, and keep him for a few days at least, in a stall with a dry and clean floor. If the whole "wart" gets dry and hard in a week or two, the treatment will be successful and no more attention will be necessary. If it does not, a second application of a fresh mixture will be required.

Always Hungry.—L. M. T., Mass. You say your horse is always hungry and wants to eat all the time, but you do not say anything about what might possibly constitute the cause of such a ravenous appetite; for instance, about the quality of food given to the animal, or whether your horse is a raw-boned and loose-jointed animal, and on that account requires an enormous quantity of food, which is the more the case if such an animal has to do much work. Instead of that you ask whether horses ever have tapeworms. This question I have to answer in the affirmative, because, as far as I know, three different kinds of tapeworms so far have been found in horses; namely, Taenia mamillana, Mehaldi, which is very rare, Taenia plicata, Rudolphi, which is rare, and Taenia perfoliata, Goeze, also of comparatively rare occurrence, though more frequent than the two first-named ones. If your horse has tapeworms, now and then proglottides will pass off with the excrements, and by examining the latter quite often the diagnosis is easily made, except in those very rare cases in which the tapeworm is T. mamillana, for the latter (the whole worm) is only half an inch long and less than one sixth of an inch in diameter, consequently its proglottides are rather small and therefore easily overlooked. As all these three worms are rare, and as it is not known that any one of them causes any essential damage to its host, unless T. perfoliata should be present in very large numbers, in which case, it has been asserted, paralytic symptoms have been observed, but there the diagnosis is very easy in consequence of the large number of proglottides and even whole worms discharged with the excrements; otherwise a treatment is very seldom required. Therefore, and as there is absolutely nothing in your communication indicating that your horse has tapeworms of any kind, it will be time enough to prescribe a treatment when it has become certain that your horse has tapeworms. Too often considerable damage is done by medication before a diagnosis has been made.

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Smiles.

PICKINGS FROM THE INTELLECT OF LITTLE PLATO SMITH.

HEADLINE. I s'pose, is th' coloe made by green thinks.

Most fellers won't admit they've got enough till they've too much.

There's room in a week for only one Sunday and about twenty-six Saturdays.

Cats can't talk, but you always know what they mean. Folks is diff'rent.

If a man didn't get his whiskers cut off, prob'ly some kind o' blossoms would come on 'em.

When some fellers say a funny thing they laugh so hard that everybody else has t' laugh t' get 'em stopped.

Some tellers won't act gentlemanly towards yuh till yuh lick 'em once.

When a baby comes to our house pa flies all to pieces; but ma she just goes t' bed an' takes it calm.

When ma says she wants t' talk with pa a minute, pa always looks at his watch an' groans.

Th' slowest old day I ever had was th' one when ma said at night: "You've been a lovely boy to-day, Plato, dear."

Ma leaves Emerson's essays layin' open on th' table for visitors' t' see, while she reads th' works of another feller that sells for ten cents.—Puck.

HE WAS NOT SO WARM.

"No," said the man with the large head; "I can't say that I think very much of the fox in the old fable of 'The Fox and the Grapes.' It is recorded of him that, after trying to get the grapes by every way that his ingenuity could suggest, he finally turned up his nose and said, 'Oh! I don't care; they're sour, anyway.'"

"Now, if that fox had any really commendable wisdom in his triangular skull he would have looked at the grapes blandly and then have announced to the world that they were sweet, but that sweets didn't agree with him; that, owing to the condition of his stomach, he considered it inadvisable to eat anything containing saccharine matter; and that, besides, a properly philosophical fox believed in self-denial and in taking things that were easily at his disposal, instead of trying to climb a trellis to secure attractive but deleterious grapes.

"If he had done that, instead of being the laughing-stock of succeeding generations, he would have stood a good chance of being appointed professor of philosophy in a subsidized university, and of living on yellow-legged chickens for the rest of his natural life."—Puck.

COULD SCORCH ON IT.

"Well, my son," said the editor of the Danville "Breeze," to his son who wanted a wheel, "you'll find one in the front end of the wheelbarrow, and there is a big pile of coal ashes back of the house that will have to be removed. The handle-bars are of white ash and are adjustable, so you can get any style of hump on that suits your fancy. It is regulated largely by the load you put on. The bigger the load the more you have to hump yourself. Be careful and don't mar the enamel on the frame and keep the ball bearings well oiled, so they won't cut into the cones. The tire is absolutely punctureless, so you won't have to take pump and repair-kit with you. By the time you have removed that pile of ashes I think you'll have made a century run; also the perspiration. You'd better come in to dinner now."—New York Tribune.

THE WRONG PLACE.

T. F. Silleck says that on one of his holiday excursions he visited Mount Vernon, and there, in the grounds, he came upon a middle-aged lady kneeling before a building at some distance from the monument. She was bathed in tears. Mr. Silleck walked up to her and asked if she were in trouble.

"No, sir," said she, "thank you very much. I am not in trouble, but my patriotic feelings overcome me when I gaze upon the tomb of the Father of His Country."

"I quite understand," said Mr. Silleck, gently, "but, my dear madame, you have made a mistake. This is not the tomb of Washington. It is over yonder. This is the ice-house."

And, drying her tears, the lady moved quietly away.—Youth's Companion.

A GOOD DEPARTURE.

A boy of fourteen who killed himself did so because he had failed to "agitate among the working-classes for their emancipation from wage-slavery by the overthrow of the capitalist system" and for the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth advocated by the socialist-labor party." There are circumstances, we feel convinced, that make suicide not so much a crime as a duty. That boy has saved himself and the world a great deal of trouble; and we can only hope that he will not go around making speeches to his fellow-angels.—Judge.

THE LOSS AND THE GAIN.

The doctor's bill was four dollars; Mr. Tidley abandoned a business trip that was worth an even two hundred; Mrs. Tidley lost three nights' sleep, and plunged into a gulf of nervous prostration; and young George Tidley, who had caused it all by falling from the woodshed roof onto fifty-six glass jars of fruit, just put up, lay on the bed and blinked at the sunshine that filtered through the blind.

"Anntie," said he.

"Yes, dear."

"'Twas a good thing it happened, wasn't it? That achy tooth I've been dreadin' t' have pulled got knocked out, and we can save th' fifty cents we'd have had t' pay th' dentist."—Judge.

THE OTHER ONE.

The two highwaymen had followed a street-railway magnate several blocks, waiting for a favorable chance to rob him. Suddenly he stopped before the residence of an alderman, ran lightly up the steps, rang the bell and was admitted.

The footpads looked at each other. "Well," said one, "what's to be done now? Shall we wait for him to come out?"

"Naw!" exclaimed the other, in disgust. "We'll hev to wait fer de alderman now."—Chicago Times-Herald.

HER COMPLAINT.

Mrs. Newrocks—"Mercy! These baggage-men are careless!"

Miss Newrocks—"What have they done, mama?"

Mrs. Newrocks—"Why, they've torn and defaced the labels on our trunks so that it is very hard for a stranger to see that we have been to Europe."—Puck.

ALAS! TOO TRUE.

First patriot—"Mr. Greathhead wants ter be 'lected senator."

Second patriot—"What kind o' man is he?"

First patriot—"Cs hoys ealled on 'im last night fer ter talk things over, and I've got er splittin' headache this mornin'."

Second patriot—"I'm fer 'im."—New York Weekly.

SUNDAY AT SEA.

Smith—"Did many of the passengers go to hear Dr. Fourthly preach in the main cabin this morning?"

Brown—"Yes; but most of them left when he announced his text."

Smith—"What was it?"

Brown—"Cast thy bread upon the waters."—Life.

HIS WAY OUT OF IT.

Willy—"It's pretty hard work to get to school in the morning when I have to go by all those circus posters."

Willy's uncle—"How have you managed, Willy?"

Willy—"Well, I haven't gone."—Detroit Free Press.

NO NEWS.

Mrs. Gabb—"Yes; my daughter appears to have married very happily. Her husband has not wealth, it must be admitted, but he has family."

Mrs. Gadd—"Yes; I heard he was a widower with six children."—New York Weekly.

GREAT EVENT IN HIS LIFE.

"They had a little celebration over at Bagley's last night."

"Ah! anniversary of some important event in the family history, doubtless."

"Yes; it was ten years ago yesterday that Bagley left St. Louis."—Judge.

A TOILET SECRET.

Minnie—"Nellie is a regular genius. She puts her frizzes up in foil off champagne-corks."

Madge—"And why off champagne-corks?"

Minnie—"Because it makes 'em tight."—Judge.

LITTLE BITS.

Brown (on foot)—"I say, do you know what happened to Balaam?"

Jones (mounted)—"The same as happened to me—an ass spoke to him!"—Judy.

"Miss Passe was bitten on the cow by a dog while riding on her wheel."

"You mean on the calf, don't you?"

"Did you ever see a calf forty-eight years old?"

It is not necessary to repeat his remarks. When his wife heard them imperfectly, being in the next room, she said:

"Oh, do say that over again, dear!"

"Look here, woman," he replied, in a concentrated voice, "when a man gets his finger caught between a sprocket and a chain, it is no time for his wife to get funny."

"Oh!" said she, "was that it? I thought you were repeating one of those Christian Endeavor 'yells.'"—Indianapolis Journal.

Young lady—"You are a wonderful master of the piano, I hear."

Prof. von Spieler (hired for the occasion)—"I blay aggompaniments zometimes."

Young lady—"Accompaniments to singing?"

Prof. von Spieler—"Aggompaniments to conversations."—Tit-Bits.

A clergyman says that he was one day called down into his parlor to perform a marriage ceremony for a couple in middle life.

"Have you ever been married before?" asked the clergyman of the bridegroom.

"No, sir."

"Have you?" to the bride.

"Well, yes, I have," replied the bride, ironically, "but it was twenty years ago, and he fell off a barn and killed hisself when we'd been married only a week, so it really ain't worth mentioning."—New York Tribune.

MRS. KRINER'S LETTER

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my life. I feel like a new person, perfectly strong. I give the Compound all the credit. I have recommended it to several of my friends who are using it with like results. It has cured me of several female diseases. I would not do without Mrs. Pinkham's remedies for anything. There is no need of so much female suffering. Her remedies are a sure cure."—MRS. ELLA KRINER, Knightstown, Henry Co., Ind.

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Selections.

JACK FROST.

BY CELIA THAXTER.

Rustily creaked the cricket: Jack Frost came down last night,
He slid to earth on a starbeam, keen and sparkling and bright;
He sought in the grass for the crickets with his delicate icy spear,
So sharp and fine and fatal, he stabbed them far and near.
Only a few stout fellows, thawed by the morning sun,
Chirrup a mournful echo of bygone frolic and fun.
But yesterday such a rippling chorus ran all over the land,
Over the hills and valleys, down to the gray sea-sand
Millions of merry harlequins, skipping and dancing in glee,
Cricket and locust and grasshopper, happy as happy could be.
Scooping rich caves in ripe apples, and feeding on honey and spice,
Drunk with the mellow sunshine, nor dreaming of spears of ice!
Was it not enough that the cricket your weapons of power should pierce?
Pray, what have you done to the flowers?
Jack Frost, you are cruel and fierce,
With never a sign or a whisper, you kissed them, and, lo! they exhaled
Their beautiful lives; they are drooping, their sweet color ebbs, they are pale,
They fade and they die! See the pansies, yet striving so hard to unfold
Their garments of velvety splendor, all Tyrian purple and gold.
But how weary they look, and how withered, like handsome court dames, who all night
Have danced at the ball till sunrise struck chill to their hearts with its light.
Where hides the wood-aster? She vanished as snow-wreaths dissolve in the sun
The moment you touched her. Look yonder, where sober and gray as a nun
The maple-tree stands that at sunset was blushing as red as the sky;
At its foot, growing scarlet as fire, its robes of magnificence lie.
Despoiler! stripping the world as you strip the shivering tree
Of color and sound and perfume, searing the bird and the bee,
Turning beauty to ashes—oh, to join the swift swallows and fly
Far away out of sight of your mischief! I give you no welcome, not I!

IN A TUMBLER GARDEN.

VERY pleasing effect may be produced by setting a wet sponge in a glass bowl and sowing it over with flax, grass or mustard seed, or all three kinds mixed.
Before long it will be covered with a thick growth of tender green, and if it be judiciously watered every day, the mustard will in time put forth its tiny yellow blossoms. Children and invalids may derive delight from watching these seeds growing in still another way.
Fill a common tumbler or goblet with water, cut out a round of cotton batting, or of soft, thick flannel, of just the size to cover the top surface, and lay it gently upon the water. Upon this scatter the seed—grass or flax or mustard, or all mixed—and gently set the tumbler away in a dark place.
In a few days the seed will start; soon the roots will begin to penetrate the cotton or flannel, slowly sending down their delicate white fibers to the bottom of the vessel, while the top will be covered with a little thicket of green.
Meanwhile, after the first 36 hours, the vessel must be kept in a warm, light place, and two or three times a week carefully replenished with water by means of a teaspoon, siphon or syringe inserted beneath the edge of the flannel. The great charm of this little tumbler garden is that the roots can be plainly seen through the glass.
Water-creases may be grown in the same way, and, like the mustard-plant, afford a pleasant relish when eaten with bread and butter. We know of a little girl who kept her invalid mother supplied all winter long with water-creases grown in this way upon wet flannel.—The Watchman.

BETTER TIMES FOR TOES.

Life notices with satisfaction that the shoe manufacturers begin once more to shape their wares with some regard for the anatomy of the human foot. The manufacturers find it expedient to change the fashion in shoes a little every year, so that last year's stock may always be a little out of style, and that weak minds may always be subject to the special allurements of "the latest thing out." The progress of the pointed shoe having gone as far as it could, there was nothing to do but to start on the return trip. Toes, therefore, have more room than they did last year, and the chiropodists may notice some abatement of their business.—Life.

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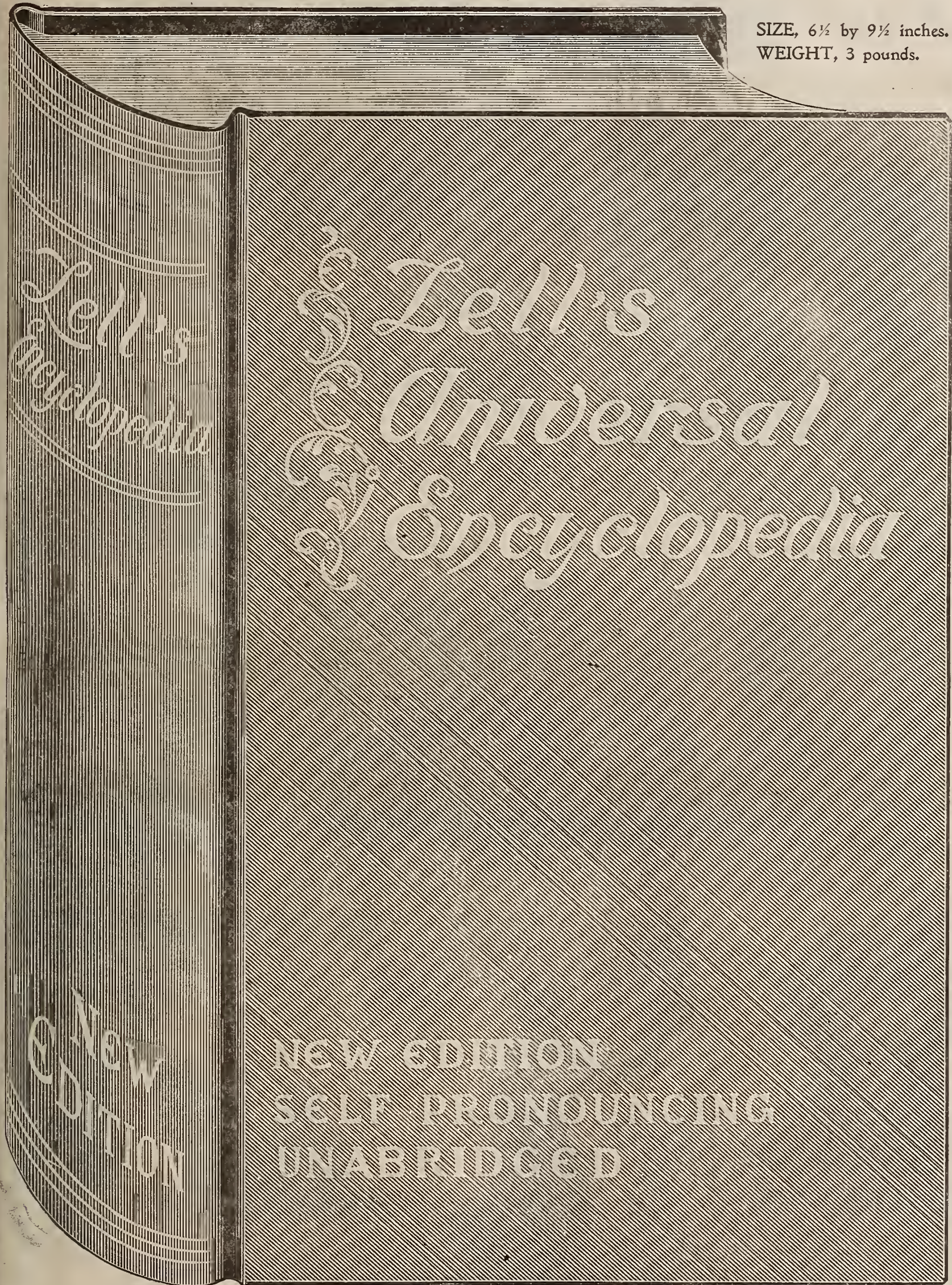
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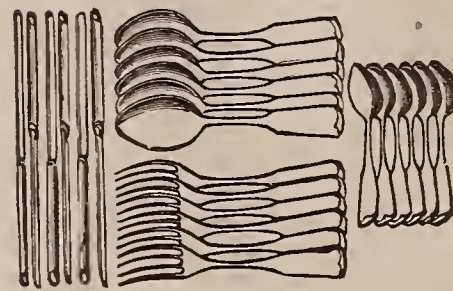
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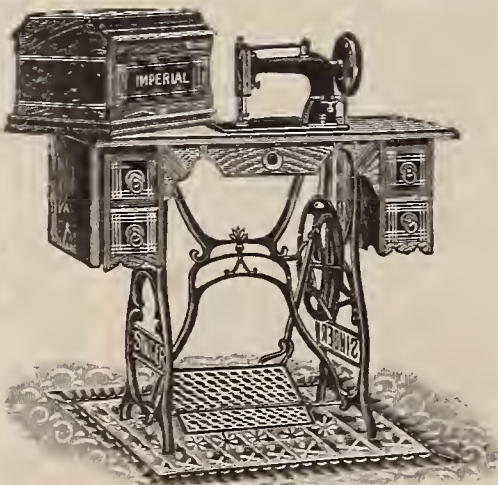
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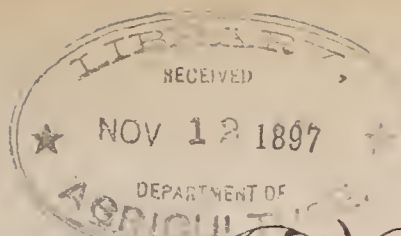
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In all America no semi-monthly has credit for one half so large a circulation as is accorded to the Springfield, Ohio, FARM AND FIRESIDE, and the publishers of the American Newspaper Directory will guarantee the accuracy of the circulation rating accorded to this paper by a reward of one hundred dollars, payable to the first person who successfully assails it.—From Printers' Ink, May 6, 1896.



SENATOR MORGAN has returned from a visit to Hawaii, and is more enthusiastic than ever in favor of annexation. He says, "I have favored annexation from the beginning, but I was surprised upon investigating the matter to find that the arguments in favor of the movement had been underestimated. In my opinion, Hawaii is absolutely indispensable to the United States, and we must have those islands. The only opposition found was that of a few of the Lilliankalan royalists, who have no weight over there, and are for the most part royalists for revenue only." It is likely that annexation will be consummated before the end of the year.

UNDER direction of the State Department Consul-general Mason has made a special investigation of the organization of beet-sugar factories in Germany, and the relative success of co-operative factories. According to his report nearly one half of the German sugar-factories are stock companies. They operate the largest factories, and have been the most successful. The stockholders are divided into two classes. In the first class, the holder of each share of stock is bound to cultivate annually a prescribed area of land in sugar-beets and deliver his product to the factory. He can sell his shares only by permission of the company to purchasers who will assume all his obligations. Stock of the second class may be held by any investor, and is issued to obtain such additional capital as is required above what the beet-growers in the neighborhood can furnish. The factories organized on this co-operative principle are the most successful, for the reason that one set of stockholders reaps all the profits incident to both beet-growing and sugar manufacture.

In answer to the specific inquiry, "To what particular circumstances are co-operative sugar-factories best adapted?" Mr. Mason says:

"Primarily, in a country or district where beet culture and sugar manufacture do not already exist, the co-operative principle enables a number of farmers who wish to engage in beet-growing to secure what is essential

to their experiment—the erection of a factory which will buy and work up their beet product. Second, co-operation is especially advantageous whenever, as at present, the selling price of sugar is so low as to oblige an independent factory to pay small prices for beets and work generally with extreme economy and on close margins. Under the co-operative system the whole industry is concentrated in the hands of agriculturists, who are thus rendered independent of mere capitalists, who would contribute nothing but money, and might demand a larger income from their investment than the business would legitimately yield. Finally, co-operation secures permanence and certainty, so far as that is possible, to the whole sugar-producing industry, by assuring to the sugar-factory an adequate supply of beets for profitable operation, and on the other hand gives to the farmer a definite market for his beet crop at a price in the fixing of which he, as a stockholder, has a voice and vote."

WINTER wheat is in a critical condition. The long drought was broken too late to permit such fall growth as is necessary to protect the plant properly through a severe winter, or even through an average one. Of course, if all conditions from now until harvest are favorable there will be a good crop. But all conditions must be unusually favorable, which is very much to be hoped for, or the crop will be a short one. With wheat in poor condition to stand the winter, growers will be kept on the anxious-seat until it is passed.

It may not be wise to make predictions about future prices, or to advise holding wheat, but it is safe to point out the fact that present conditions indicate higher prices. Undoubtedly present prices would be higher if it were not for the free selling of wheat by growers. They have been sending large quantities to market every week, but it has all been taken readily, and exports have been enormous. A check in the movement of wheat from the farm would be to the advantage of the producer. In view of the shortage abroad and the present condition of fall-sown wheat, prices should be higher than they are, and would be if growers had not been crowding the market. Look for a rise in price on even a slight decrease in the movement of wheat from the farm.

THE Treasury figures for August, the first full month under the new tariff law, show the largest August exports of domestic merchandise in the history of the country. They were \$79,490,264 as against \$66,639,981 for August of last year. For the first eight months of the year 1897 the exports were over \$61,000,000 in excess of those of the first eight months of 1896, and Treasury officials are predicting that the exports of this year will far exceed those of last year, which itself was a record-breaker in exports. Our August trade with Europe gave a balance of upward of \$40,000,000 in our favor.

The exports of manufactured goods have kept up wonderfully well, but close observers think that they will soon fall off to some extent in view of the fact that American manufacturers are now running overtime to supply goods for the home market.

"European nations," says Director Smith of the Bureau of American Republics, "are selling annually to Mexico and the South and Central American republics and the West Indies in the neighborhood of \$150,000,000 worth of goods, most, if not all, of which could be supplied by the United States. But little attention has been paid to this market by Americans, only such surplus products being sent there as we could find a market for nowhere else. In the past year, however, we have begun to manufacture goods in great volume especially adapted to the Central and South American trade, and have fully

demonstrated that we can meet our European competitors even upon the unfavorable conditions under which we operate at present. On equal terms we cannot only meet them, but beat them in these neutral markets of the world. It is but natural that we should enjoy close commercial relations with all of these countries. They are all republics, modeled after the United States. For many years they are not likely to be manufacturing countries, but will be devoted mainly to agriculture, forestry and mining. They will naturally exchange their gold, silver, tropical fruits, lumber, dye-woods, coffee, chocolate, guana, etc., for manufactured cottons, woollens and other manufactures, as well as flour and other breadstuffs, preserved meats, etc., and these we can supply as easily and advantageously, and more so, than any other country."

In an article in the "Forum" for October, entitled "The Impending Deficiency of Breadstuffs," Mr. C. Wood Davis gives reasons for his faith that higher wheat prices have come to stay. He shows that while the bread-eating population of the world has increased since 1871 from 371,000,000, or 37½ per cent, the grain acreage—wheat, rye, spelt and buckwheat—has increased only from 258,000,000 to 278,000,000 acres, or but 7.3-5 per cent. For some years past Mr. Davis has maintained that the ratio between the increase of wheat acreage and the increase in the bread-eating population was such that the time must inevitably come when there would be a deficiency of breadstuffs. The statistics he gives now support the claim.

"That scarcity and high prices have not prevailed in recent years," he says, "is due to the harvesting, since 1880, of seven world-crops of wheat and six of rye, giving outputs so much above the average as to result, prior to 1895, in great accumulations that served to obscure the fact that the harvests of 1895 and 1896 were each below the current requirements. As reserves will wholly disappear this year, requirements must hereafter be met from current harvests, accumulation being impossible. This is obvious from the fact that an output equaling that of 1894 (the greatest crop ever grown, both in acre-yield and in the aggregate) would be less than present needs."

THE consumption of wheat is materially affected by a change in the standard of living. Paradoxical as it may seem at first suggestion, diminished demand for wheat follows a rise above as well as a fall below certain limits. When the standard of living falls below these limits, cheaper foods are substituted for wheat. To this are due the large exports of wheat from Russia since 1880. When the standard of living rises above these limits there is a larger consumption of meats, fruits and other high-priced foods and less of wheat.

From the figures of growth of population and of production and consumption of breadstuffs and meats, an eminent statistician, Robert Giffen, deduces the conclusion that the decline in the price of wheat in recent years is not due to excessive production. Why, then, as during the same period there has been a great increase in the purchasing power of the consuming population, is there a diminished demand for wheat? He finds the answer in the figures of enlarged meat production and consumption. People eat more meat, and therefore less bread. "Cereals have thus been subjected," he says, "to a new indirect competition of a most formidable kind. They have not been benefited by the large growth of a richer and richer population, as might have been expected beforehand. The increased wealth has gone in the purchase of meat, and a meat-eating population consumes less cereals than a population eating less meat would do, although the meat-eating population generally has the larger power of consumption."

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NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Carbon Bisulphid. For some years I have been considerably annoyed by the presence of clothes-moths in the house, and many a good piece of wearing-apparel has been more or less damaged by their attacks; all this in spite of the frequent use of benzene and of much care in packing winter goods away in tight boxes or bags during the summer. In one house (which I usually have occupied by some tenant) carpet-beetles are doing much mischief. I had already made up my mind to try the virtues of carbon bisulphid when the last bulletin of the Alabama experiment station (No. 86, August, 1897) came to my desk. This bulletin, among other things, speaks of the use of carbon bisulphid just for the very purpose for which I had it in view, and gives very plain directions about the details of handling a drug which is not only extremely explosive, but a strong poison that we should avoid inhaling, and which is a clear, very volatile and very bad-smelling liquid. I have frequently mentioned it in these columns as a ready means to destroy weevils in peas, beans and grains of all kinds. With proper care it can be used with entire safety. The strong, disagreeable odor soon leaves, and no trace or taste of it is left behind in any of the various food products treated with the drug. The thing most urgently necessary in handling it is the utmost care to have no spark, no lamp or other flame or light in the same room with its vapors. The following directions for clearing a house of clothes-moths, carpet-beetles, cockroaches, book-lice, flour-beetles and other insects (possibly even rodents) that infest the building are given:

"In making preparations to treat the house, first see that all windows, doors, ventilators, chimney openings and fireplaces are securely closed, and all fires entirely extinguished. Now go through the house and rapidly pour the liquid into large pans, previously conveniently placed, at least a pound to a medium-sized room. It would be better if these pans were set up on tables or shelves. Place some also in closets and cupboards. Start with the attic, if there be one, and proceed rapidly down and out, closing all the doors. If the out-

side doors have broad open spaces beneath, close these with rugs or something of the sort, and look for any other openings that might be stopped up. Next morning the doors may be opened and the house aired out. It is used on these same principles in stores, warehouses, granaries and mills."

The wholesale price of bisulphid of carbon is quoted at ten cents a pound, in fifty-pound lots, and twelve cents in ten-pound lots (in New Orleans). I was not quite so fortunate to obtain my supply at these low figures in Buffalo, and had to pay twenty-five cents a pound in an original six-pound package. Of course, when not in use the drug should be stored in a tightly closed can in a cool place. And now, why not use this same means to destroy aphids and red spider in the greenhouse? At any rate it is worth the trial, especially as it is harmless to vegetation. Just as soon as I have the greenhouse in running order again I propose to fumigate with carbon bisulphid, and am in hopes to find in it a means to make a certain end of all sorts of plant-lice, sow-bugs, snails, and whatever other insect or other pests may prey on my greenhouse plants.

Parental Love. There is something grand about parental love, even if its manifestations are sometimes very amusing. What good things a mother cannot see in her child nobody else could hope to find with the help of a giant telescope. There is a little toddler in our house who with much effort and as yet little success is trying to learn to talk United States. Then there is another, two weeks younger, at my daughter's house taking all sorts of liberties with the mother-tongue. The case between the two mothers is pretty much like the one told by "Yonth's Companion": "Does your baby talk any yet?" one woman was heard to ask of another.

"Talk? Well, I should say he did talk!" replied the mother, almost indignantly. "He says just anything! His little tongue runs steadily from morning till night. He can ask for anything he wants at the table or any place else. I never had a child that talked so early or said so many things at his age. My sister-in-law has a little boy eight months and four days older than this child who don't begin to talk as much nor as well, although, of course, I wouldn't say so before her. She thinks the child is a wonder, but he don't compare with his little cousin here. Johnnie, say bread and butter for the lady."

"Bed an' buttum," said Johnnie.

"There! You see how perfectly he says it; and the best my sister-in-law's baby can do is to say 'bell an' bullaw,'" and he calls sugar "coogah." Johnnie, say sugar, and I'll give you a lump when we get home."

"Soogum!"

"There! You see the difference! It's just so with everything, but I never brag about it to my sister-in-law, for she's real sensitive about it. But I guess you wouldn't ask if this child could talk if you could hear him once. Of course, he's in a strange place now, and he's quiet, but I guess he can talk; and I don't see who he gets it from, either! There are no great talkers in my family, nor in his father's."

Amusing? Yes, and grand, too, as I said. What would this world be without this maternal or parental love? This love surely is a most admirable device of nature to insure needed care and safety to helpless infancy, in humans as well as in other animals. And we should not make light of even its amusing manifestations.

Liming the Land. Readers of farm papers often ask about the best form of lime and the best quantities to be applied on the land. These are important questions, since there are many soils that might be greatly benefited by lime applications. One of the latest bulletins of the Rhode Island station (No. 46, August, 1897) gives some good hints in this respect, and I will call attention to a few of the salient points. First, to determine whether a particular soil needs liming, the litmus-paper test is suggested. If the soil is acid, and consequently benefited by lime applications, a slip of blue litmus-paper (to be had in sufficient quantity for many tests at any apothecary store at a few cents' cost), when brought in close contact with the damp soil, will assume a red tint. Next comes the ammonia-water test. "In case a soil contains any considerable excess of carbonate of lime and magnesia, the humus is mostly

combined with lime and magnesia, and in such case, if a teaspoonful of soil is stirred into a glassful of water to which a few drops of ammonia-water have been added, and the whole set aside for some hours, the liquid which remains at the top will be nearly colorless; but where lime and magnesia are lacking in a soil, the liquid has usually a dark brown or black appearance, the intensity of color depending upon the amount of soil taken, and of course upon its need of lime." A test that might be made in a practical way is the beet test. Beets show benefit from liming in a marked manner in case the soil needs that treatment.

Forms of Lime. The various forms of lime which can come in consideration in this respect are land-plaster, or gypsum, superphosphates, plain phosphate of lime, basic slag (Thomas slag, or slag-meal), unleached and leached wood ashes, gas-house lime, dye-house lime, finely ground limestone and oyster-shells, air-slaked lime, quick or burned lime. If we have to purchase the lime, the question will be what form to select. Of course, it would not do to purchase phosphates, basic slag and wood ashes merely for the sake of the lime in these articles. If we pay for the phosphoric acid or potash in them, and have the lime thrown in, all right. Otherwise we must use lime in one of the cheaper forms, as air-slaked, burned, etc. Usually air-slaked lime can be had at a much cheaper rate than freshly burnt lime; but it is also of less value. Where the lime has to be carted long distances, or transportation charges are high, the burnt lime may be the cheaper form.

Applying the Lime. So far as the amount of lime to be applied on an acre is concerned most authorities agree to put it at two or two and one half tons of quick-lime or its equivalent in other forms. The trouble is mostly in the application. Lime is a dusty and disagreeable thing to handle when one has no lime-spreader. The bulletin makes the following recommendations:

"Heaps of fifty pounds, each twenty-one feet apart in each direction, would give an application at the rate of about two and one half tons an acre, and heaps of forty pounds each at the same distance, one of two tons an acre. The heaps should be well covered with soil, which, if it is fairly moist, will supply water enough to the lime so that it will be well slaked in the course of a few days. It may then be spread from the heaps with a shovel, or as some seem to prefer, be loaded upon and then spread from a cart, stone-boat or drag. In case the soil is very dry, from a fourth to half a pailful of water, depending upon the apparent moisture of the soil, may be thrown over each heap before it is covered with earth."

Of course, great pains should be taken to spread the lime from each heap uniformly and evenly over its allotted area.

T. GREINER.

SALIENT FARM NOTES.

Corn. As all old readers of FARM AND FIRESIDE well know, I have been for over a year predicting that corn would be "corn" in due time, and advising all who were able to hold onto the finely matured, solid-grained crop of 1896 until the price arose to a paying figure. That figure is likely to be reached in a short time.

The reports persistently circulated that another enormous crop has successfully been brought to maturity in all of the leading corn-producing states are not borne out by the hard facts. Corn that was planted early in well-prepared soil will, without a doubt, yield a good crop; but all that was planted late, or moderately late even, was caught by the severe drought that began in late summer, and is light, loose on the cob and chaffy. And let me say there are thousands of acres of such corn in all of the leading corn-producing states. I know a large number of farmers who in July informed me that their corn would be fully as good and the yield quite as heavy as last year who now will be glad if they get thirty bushels an acre.

It is a long lane that has no turn. When corn was down to fifteen cents a bushel, and the country was full of it, farmers literally threw it away by wasteful methods of feeding; by piling it up in rail pens and leaving it exposed to the weather, and by leaving it shocked up in the fields

until vermin ruined it. I firmly believe that before another crop is raised some of these very men will be wishing they had a few bushels of the grand, sound corn they grew in 1895-6.

Last spring a farmer who had about 1,500 bushels of splendid corn on hand asked me what I thought of the prospect for a raise in price. I told him I thought it would come before the summer was over.

"Where will it come from?" he asked, sarcastically. "Here is another big acreage planted and sure to yield heavily, millions of bushels of last year's crop in the country, and no great demand anywhere. What's to raise prices?"

A few days afterward he sold all he had at nineteen cents a bushel. In less than a month after that the price went up to twenty-five cents. The crop he is growing this season will not average twenty bushels an acre, and is light, chaffy stuff besides.

A careful farmer who has most of his last year's corn crop still on hand informed me a few days ago that he intends to hold it until next summer, and feed this year's crop to his stock. He says the old corn is fifty per cent better than that he raised this year, and will bring a far better price next summer. He expects to get forty cents a bushel for the old crop, while he thinks twenty cents would be a good price for the new. His old corn is in good cribs and in excellent condition for keeping, and he can well afford to hold it. As he is a very conservative and cautious man, and has always been remarkably "lucky" in marketing his products at just the right time, his example is worthy of serious consideration. Corn that has been prematurely ripened by drought makes fair feed, but does not sell well in market, while if cribbed and held the shrinkage is very great.

Pastures. This season has been a corker on pastures. We have no grass that will grow during such hot and dry weather as we have experienced the past eight or ten weeks. I did see a small field of clover that looked luxuriant as I was returning from the fair. Five sleek-looking cows with distended udders were pasturing upon it, and there was food enough in sight to supply them until Christmas, if it did not freeze. I learned that the clover was sown on a crop of winter wheat, in the latter part of March, 1896; that it had been pastured by these same milk-cows in the early autumn, but not enough to graze it close. The middle of last June the first growth, which was fairly heavy, was cut down with a mower and left on the ground, and the fine pasturage the cows are now grazing is the second crop. The first cutting shaded the ground so that it did not dry out so rapidly as land that is almost bare, and the result is a rank growth that is being converted into butter equal in every respect to the finest June product.

Almost all pastures are overstocked. The result is they are grazed so close that the roots of the grass are exposed to the hot sun and drying winds of July and August, and very often destroyed. All farmers and stockmen know that close grazing in the latter part of summer will ruin any pasture; yet they seem to persist in it, even when they are fully aware of what the result will be. When a dry spell of weather sets in, as it usually does in July or August, grass ceases to grow, and it does not take long for a little bunch of stock to clean a pasture up. Then is the time a soiling crop comes in mighty handy, and if it is fed liberally the pasture will not be grazed bare, and the grass will be saved.

Soiling Crops. The question for the farmer to decide is, Will it not pay better to devote a few acres to a good soiling crop, to be fed when a dry spell sets in, than to have the pastures grazed to the ground and burned out? Corn, drilled thickly, makes an excellent soiling crop, and a vast quantity of feed can be grown on an acre. It may be put in at two or three different times, so that it will be green and succulent to the end of the season. Rape has been highly recommended for this purpose, but corn will supply a larger quantity of food to the acre. Rape does well on rich soil, in a damp season, but corn is the safest soiling crop for us. Farmers should think these matters over. Don't allow your pastures to be ruined through lack of a little forethought.

FRED GRUNDY.

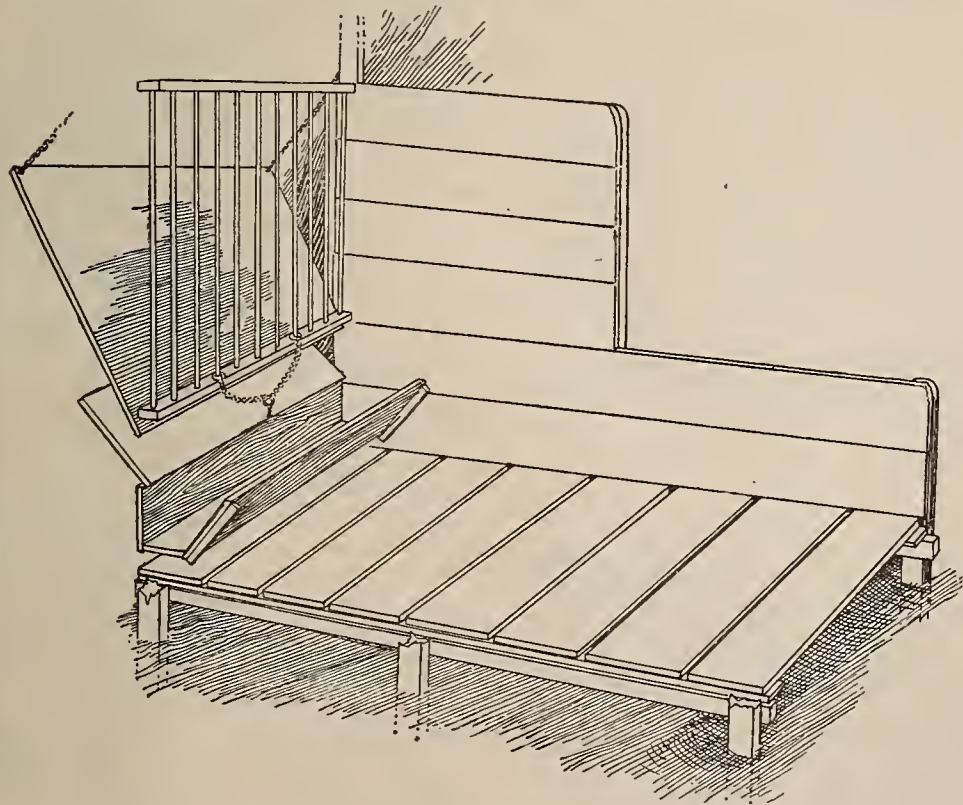
Our Farm.

FARM THEORY AND PRACTICE.

INTENSIVE AND ORDINARY FARMING.—No one more appreciates the work done by our most advanced farmers than the writer. They lead the way, adopt new methods and improve old ones, and their examples are instructive to all who study them aright. Some of the most intensive farming gives wonderful results, and they are inspiring to the many who have not even dreamed of the possibilities of the soil or of farm animals; but when it comes to adopting the methods of the leaders in agricultural thought, lots of common sense is needed. Conditions vary so widely that exact copying is hardly ever safe, and not infrequently the best methods for one locality are the worst possible ones for another section of the country. Especially should it be borne in mind that the largest yields to the acre are not necessarily the most profitable, or would not be so in most of our agricultural sections. An illustration of this truth may possibly be found in the recently exploited system of raising grass, by means of which very large yields of hay to the acre are secured. The essentials are extra heavy fertilization, the best preparation of the seed-bed, and heavy seeding. Four times the average yield of grass to the acre has been secured by one gentleman, and his example inspired the manager of ex-Governor Morton's farm to try the plan. Thirty acres of land were used, and forty dollars' worth of hay to the acre was secured. This arouses one's interest and one's dissatisfaction with ordinary yields, but let us study the facts. The manager thinks that this method is the hope of the western farmer. But is it? How about the cost? Twelve hundred tons of barn-yard manure were used, \$187 worth of commercial fertilizers, \$60 worth of seed, 156 days' work with team, besides the labor of harvesting. The product is worth \$10 a ton where produced in the East, but would not be worth more than half that on a majority of farms. This example of intensive farming teaches the value of a good seed-bed and proper fertilization, and should urge us to do our best within reason, taking into account our market and other surroundings, but it does not prove that the largest yields are necessarily the profitable ones, or that the farmer who uses lots of good tillage and a limited amount of fertilizer and gets two tons of hay to the acre is not the better

but that these best farmers could make some changes that would be to their advantage, but generally speaking they are more nearly right than any outsider would be who undertook to revolutionize the existing order of things in that particular locality. Local conditions have led through many years to the adoption of certain crops and certain kinds of stock, and it has been found that certain general methods of handling them give some net profit. The consensus of opinion in an intelligent community is safe to accept on most points of every-day practice under the local conditions. The soil may change, markets change and new discoveries be made, and so will the practice of progressive men change to meet new conditions; but the beginner in farming does well to study the farm plans of his neighbors, and while improving upon them the best he may, go slow in making radical changes that do not commend themselves to the best judgment of intelligent men similarly situated.

COMPETITION WITH SPECIALISTS.—Another illustration of the need of accepting advice cautiously may be found in the matter of supplying one's self with all modern farm machinery. A noted potato-grower recently said, "I am occasionally asked by some friend whether I would advise him to buy a digger to dig a few acres—say five to eight. Well, I would myself either grow enough so I could afford a digger or would raise only enough for our own use. Just how many acres one should raise to make the digger profitable depends upon circumstances." Is this the correct position for all? This refers to the high-priced diggers that do nearly perfect work; there are many styles of cheap diggers that can be bought for a few dollars. I am acquainted with rather extensive growers—men who raise from ten to thirty acres a year—who do not use any other digger than a shovel-plow. I grow this crop quite extensively, and have never found it necessary to own anything better than a cheap digger. I do not say that one of the costly diggers might not be a good investment, but my point is that the specialist, with his costly outfit, is not at a sufficient advantage over the one who would like to grow a limited amount to slant him out of competition. Ability to meet competition depends upon condition of soil, care about seed and painstaking culture. These affect gross returns to the acre most



farmer. There is no argument in all this for slipshod farming, but a justification of the sensible practice of figuring on net profit to the acre rather than extraordinary yields regardless of profit.

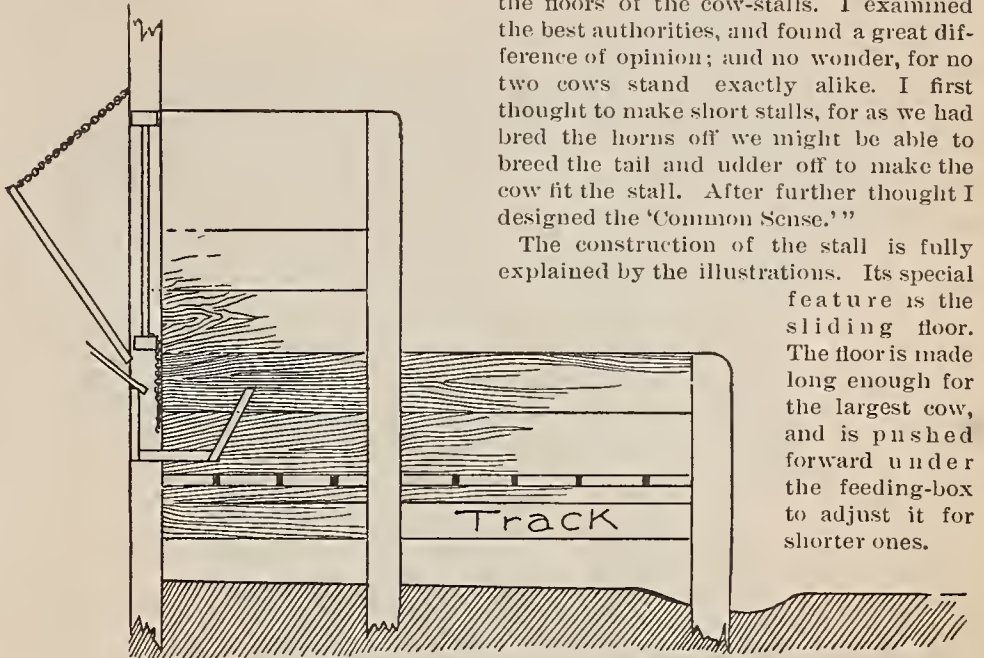
PREVAILING METHODS USUALLY SAFE.—The writer believes in progress, and is gratified that he has found one or two new crops that are profitable with him, and some change in methods of work and rotation of crops that is more satisfactory than the old way; but while looking for improvement, all the time the opinion is held firmly that the prevailing methods of the best farmers of any locality are, in the long run, the most profitable for that locality in nine instances out of ten. No doubt

materially, and a difference of a dollar an acre in cost of harvesting is a most minor item, although it is an item. It is all a question of local conditions.

COUNSEL IS PROFITABLE.—It is far from my aim to depreciate the value of counsel. Our practical works on agriculture, station reports and farm journals are a necessity to the live, progressive farmer. He wants and needs suggestions; but the prudent man weighs well all he reads, modifies the practicable to suit his conditions, stores his mind with the best thoughts of his fellow-workers, and then does his thinking for himself. He fits himself by digesting others' thoughts, then depends upon his own trained judgment. DAVID.

FACTS ABOUT POTATOES.

The Irish potato is a peculiar tuber that does not flourish if planted on the same ground for a number of years. Annual rotation with beets, carrots, rutabagas and similar clean crops is necessary to insure good yields of potatoes. The same seed will soon degenerate, and partial failure will be the natural result. A change of seed is therefore absolutely necessary to make the business of growing potatoes a success. Where no change is made in the seed for a few years the tubers do not ripen, are not perfect, and when cooked will not be mealy and fine as good potatoes should always appear. I have seen potatoes that would not cook soft, but remain as artichokes. Upon investigation I learned



crease the yield and cause the scab. Every farmer must bear in mind this fact: Potatoes require moisture only while forming on the roots, but that does not consist in flooding the tubers with pools of stagnant water. The land should be perfectly dry when the potatoes are dug, so that no soil may cling to the tubers.

JOEL SHOMAKER.

ADJUSTABLE COW-STALL.

The accompanying illustrations show the "Common Sense" adjustable cow-stall, designed and used by Mr. Calvin S. Huntley, of Butler county, Ohio. The inventor says:

"When building my stable two years ago, the carpenter asked how long to make the floors of the cow-stalls. I examined the best authorities, and found a great difference of opinion; and no wonder, for no two cows stand exactly alike. I first thought to make short stalls, for as we had bred the horns off we might be able to breed the tail and udder off to make the cow fit the stall. After further thought I designed the 'Common Sense.'"

The construction of the stall is fully explained by the illustrations. Its special feature is the sliding floor. The floor is made long enough for the largest cow, and is pushed forward under the feeding-box to adjust it for shorter ones.

DEHORN THE DAIRY-COWS.

The dehorning of cattle is a subject which may be said to be settled in the affirmative so far as the great dairy districts of Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota are concerned. A journey through these states will show to the intelligent observer that nearly half the cattle are minus their horns, especially among the large herds.

On approaching a farmer for his reasons why he had dehorned his stock, he stated that it made the cows more gentle and docile, and that he noticed somewhat of an increase in the milk yield since it had been done. The cows lost the fidgety, nervous appearance, and did not seem to be so much afraid of the leader of the herd.

KILLING WEEVILS.

Seedsmen treat peas and other "buggy" seeds on a large scale by placing the bags containing the seeds in a fire-proof, practically air-tight building devoted to that purpose, setting shallow pans holding carbon bisulphid in various parts of the room near the ceiling. After being thus subjected to the fumes for about twenty-four, sometimes as long as forty-eight, hours, the room is opened and thoroughly aired. The United States Department of Agriculture has experimented to ascertain whether seeds so treated have the vital power injured. It finds no injury from twenty-four hours; but a period of forty-eight hours does in many instances.—Meehans' Monthly.

From Foot to Knee

Ohio Woman Suffered Great Agony From a Terrible Sore—Her Story of the Case, and Her Cure.

"For many years I was afflicted with a milk leg, and a few years ago it broke out in a sore and spread from my foot to my knee. I suffered great agony. It would burn and itch all the time and discharge a great deal. I tried a great many kinds of salve, but some of them would irritate it so that I could hardly stand it. I could not go near the fire without suffering intensely. Some one sent me papers containing testimonials of cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla and I told my husband I would like to try the medicine. He got me a bottle and I found it helped me. I kept on taking it until my limb was completely healed." MRS. ANNA E. EAKEN, Whittlesey, Ohio. Be sure to get Hood's because

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. \$1; six for \$5. C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, reliable and beneficial. 25c.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

THE GENERAL OUTCOME.—Although I am not usually growing wheat or rye for sale, I rejoice in the return—even if only temporary—of prices of these cereals which will leave something of a profit for the skilful grower. Higher wheat prices, even if largely (and unfortunately) based on poor crops and famine elsewhere, mean better times, relief from pressing burdens and needs for the American farmer, and better times all

originally recommended by Professor Goff. Another vegetable which has sold fairly well, and which, it seems, we can still grow at a profit—indeed, a good profit when we grow it in our newest way—is early celery. There is no doubt that the gardener who knows how to produce a decent article, and will bring it to the retail market in good shape and regularly, can still make a fair living.

THE AMERICAN COFFEE-BERRY.—The variety of soja, or soy, bean recently much advertised under the name of American coffee-berry does not appear to differ in

of soy-bean meal. Professor Brooks, of Massachusetts, found that it compared very favorably with cotton-seed meal. Cows fed on soy-bean meal gave richer milk and produced a better quality of butter than when fed on cotton-seed meal, but on the latter the cream was richer. Professor Georgeson (Kansas) obtained excellent results in feeding hogs on a ration of which soy-bean meal was a prominent constituent." Professor Georgeson reports that a lot of three pigs fed for a period of eighteen weeks on two thirds corn-meal and one third soy-bean meal gained 544 pounds in weight, while a similar lot of pigs fed on corn-meal for the first eleven weeks and on a mixture of two thirds corn-meal and one third shorts for the last seven weeks of the experiment gained only 306 pounds—a difference of 238 pounds in favor of the soy-bean; also, that a lot of three pigs fed for eighteen weeks on two thirds Kafir-corn meal and one third soy-bean meal gained 547 pounds, while a similar lot of three pigs fed for the first eleven weeks on Kafir-corn meal alone and for the last seven weeks of the experiment on two thirds Kafir-corn meal and one third shorts, gained only 191 pounds—a difference of 356 pounds in favor of the soy-bean meal. I have only to add, for the benefit of those who may wish to make some trials with the soy-bean, that the most suitable soil is a warm, rather sandy loam, and that this should not be very rich, either; otherwise the plants are liable to run mostly to leaf and stalk, without setting fruit. At least this has been my experience. T. GREINER.

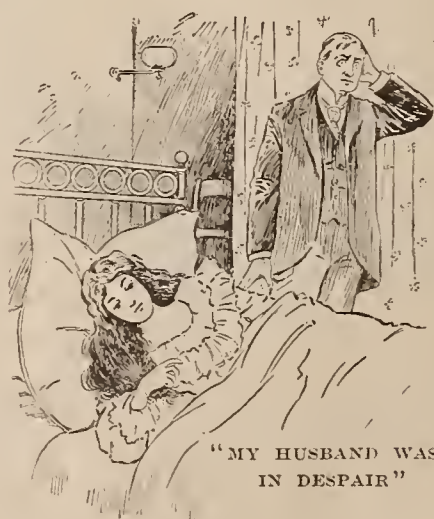
CAMPBELL'S EARLY GRAPE.

The illustration is an accurate reproduction by photography and wood-engraving of a cluster from a basket of Campbell's Early grapes, sent to us by Mr. George S. Josselyn, the introducer of this superior new variety. This fine early black grape was originated by Mr. George W. Campbell. It is an improved Concord produced by different crosses from Hartford, Concord, Moore's Early through Muscat-Hamburg, selecting the hardiest and healthiest foliaged hybrids for succession. It combines in a rare degree the desirable qualities of hardiness, earliness, productiveness, large size and fine flavor. The skin is tenacious, the flesh sweet from skin to center and the seeds part freely from the pulp. In brief, it is a table-grape of the highest quality that can be grown anywhere and shipped everywhere.

HOPE OUT OF DESPAIR.

This is the story of a woman who suffered and despaired. Not a romantic tale of an imaginary woman, but the plain unvarnished facts about a wife and mother, whose final triumph over misery and hopelessness teaches this indisputable truth: Neither nature nor the Creator of nature ever intended women to be all their lives incapacitated and worn and racked with continual aches and agonies.

Women who drag along in weakness and wretchedness a large share of their time, get into the habit of thinking that there is



no help for it; that it is all part of their inevitable destiny. They become discouraged with the failure after failure of unnatural drugs and unscientific practitioners to bring them any permanent relief. They settle down into the despondent conviction that there is no way of escape from the fatal weakness which drags them backward.

But the remarkable experience here narrated shows beyond question that this is wrong and a mistaken one. There is hope for every suffering woman; there is a way of escape from all their prostrating weak-

nesses; there is a perfect and unfailing remedy which has restored more than ninety thousand pain-racked, weary, despairing women to complete health, strength and buoyant cheerfulness:—"My life is

A STORY OF MISERY

for the last three years," this lady writes. She is Mrs. Alonzo Rathmell, living at the cor. of Meade and Almond St., in Williamsport, Pa. "Until the birth of my boy I had health that I often boasted of. I married in my twenty-fifth year, and two years afterward my boy was born. Then the health I boasted of was suddenly gone. Pen or tongue can never describe the awful suffering I endured for a year and a half. I was so miserable I longed for death to relieve me, when a kind neighbor came in and asked me to try a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I said despairingly, 'Oh, it's of no use; I can't ever be any better.' She insisted, and my husband, who was in despair, got a bottle and I took it just to please him. I had not taken half a bottle when I was able to walk across the room without feeling faint or having any palpitation of the heart. Oh, what a God-send your medicine is to suffering humanity. We had spent two hundred dollars with the leading doctors without any benefit whatever.

"Last December I had a baby and, thanks to your 'Favorite Prescription,' I stood the confinement well and have a fourteen pound baby girl. To-day I feel as well as I ever did in my life. I hate to even think of how I felt before I began to take your medicine. I could not stand on my feet but it seemed as though I would fall through myself; and to walk was simply torture. But to-day I can hardly believe that I ever was so miserable. I know that I induced a number of friends to try your 'Favorite Prescription' and have heard of no failures."

The inventor of this remarkable remedy is Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., who as chief consulting physician of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of that city, for thirty years, has been known as America's foremost specialist in the treatment of women's diseases. His "Favorite Prescription" for women is known the world over as the one remedy of its kind which is based upon natural principles translated into a perfectly scientific and marvelously effective formula.

It completely rejuvenates the womanly organism; it gives internal health and vital force; it reaches the innermost sources of disease in the organic tissues and life-sustaining nerve-centers. It purifies, heals, strengthens. It creates a physically new womanhood, as no other medicine ever has or can.

It prepares women for motherhood, and robs that trying ordeal of all its accustomed terrors. Taken during the expectant period it banishes all danger and nearly all pain; comforting and sustaining the mother and giving healthy vigor to the child. It is the only proprietary medicine for women which is prepared by an educated physician and sanctioned by competent medical authority.

Thousands of women have written grateful letters to Dr. Pierce, testifying to the help they have received from his wonderful remedies.

Mrs. M. E. Farrar, of Scottsville, Albemarle Co., Va., writes: "I wrote to you last May explaining my case to you and you advised me to take Dr. Pierce's medicines. At that time I had been a wreck for six years and continued getting worse every day. Could not walk across my floor without suffering almost death. My case was of long standing; womb disease, dyspepsia, heart trouble and nervousness. I grew worse all the time. I tried different physicians who said they could not cure me. When I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's medicines I only weighed ninety pounds. I took five bottles of his 'Favorite Prescription' and four of 'Golden Medical Discovery.' When I commenced, the doctor said I would not live a month. To-day I am a well woman and weigh one hundred and twenty-five pounds. It has been eight months since I stopped taking the medicines and I have no symptoms of a return of the disease."

Every woman should own a copy of Dr. Pierce's great thousand page book, The Common Sense Medical Adviser. It will be sent absolutely free paper-bound for 21 one-cent stamps to pay the cost of mailing only. Address World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y. Or send 31 stamps for a handsome cloth-bound copy.



CAMPBELL'S EARLY. (NATURAL SIZE.)

around in this country. Personally I am touched by the better times only to a small extent. Just in those crops on which I usually rely for my profits from soil tillage the "depression" was worse this year than ever before. Last year I sold my Bartlett pear crop for nearly \$300. This year I had hard work to sell it at any price, and finally managed to get about \$50 for it, although I had nearly as many bushels. Last year my pickling onions netted me nearly a dollar a peach-basket (ten quarts); this year the markets seemed to be overstocked, and the best I could do was to sell these little onions at fifty to sixty cents, and rarely at a higher figure. On the other hand, the Prizetaker onions have sold well this year, seventy-five cents a bushel being the lowest price received, while many bushels in the beginning of the season were sold at the rate of one dollar a bushel. Last year onions were a drug on the market all summer long, although even then I sold many of my fine Prizetakers at one dollar a bushel and none for less than fifty cents. Just at present I see no reason why I should abandon the onion business or plant less extensively than in former years. In short, onions still pay. For most vegetables prices have been comparatively better than for fruits. The prices of small fruits—strawberries, raspberries, currants, etc.—have been discouragingly low, in many cases barely covering the cost of picking and packages. Early cabbages sold fairly well at remunerative prices, and we could have done well with them but for the fact that the maggot destroyed such a large portion of the crop, and this in spite of frequent applications of tobacco-dust and other remedies. Our only salvation in this respect probably lies in the use of the collars of tarred felt, as

any material way from other varieties of the same interesting Japanese vegetable which I have grown, off and on, in small plots for the last ten or a dozen years. The bush (on fairly good land) grows to the height of two to three feet; the leaves are yellowish green in color, and the small pods, each filled with three or four yellowish beans, cluster mostly on the main stalk. Whether the roasted bean really makes such a delicious coffee substitute, as claimed by those who advertised the seed, I shall soon be able to tell from personal experience. Unfortunately, Mr. A. I. Root, from whom I procured the seed last spring, now claims that the kind he sent out then was not the best variety for coffee, and that now he has a smaller and earlier kind still better suited for the purpose. Whatever its value as a "coffee-berry," however, I believe that this soja, or soy, bean may be found a good thing for feed purposes. It makes a highly nitrogenous food, and might be used to advantage as an addition to corn for balancing the ration.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 58, issued by the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. (and from there to be had free on application), says that "there is no crop so easily grown that is so rich and can be used to such good advantage in compounding feeding rations as the soy-bean. Excepting the peanut, there is no other raw vegetable product known which contains such a high percentage of protein and fat in such a highly digestible form. For feeding to animals, the beans should be ground and the meal used with some less concentrated feeding stuffs. Comparatively few experiments have as yet been made in the United States to test the feeding value

Our Farm.

ORIGIN AND TRUE PURPOSE OF THE GRANGE.

MORE than thirty years ago the idea was conceived of establishing an organization of farmers, farmers' wives, sons and daughters that would be national in character. This important work was accomplished by Mr. Wm. Saunders, of the United States Department of Agriculture, John R. Thompson, O. H. Kelley, Dr. John Trimble, and others who were subsequently known as founders of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, now more commonly known as the Grange.

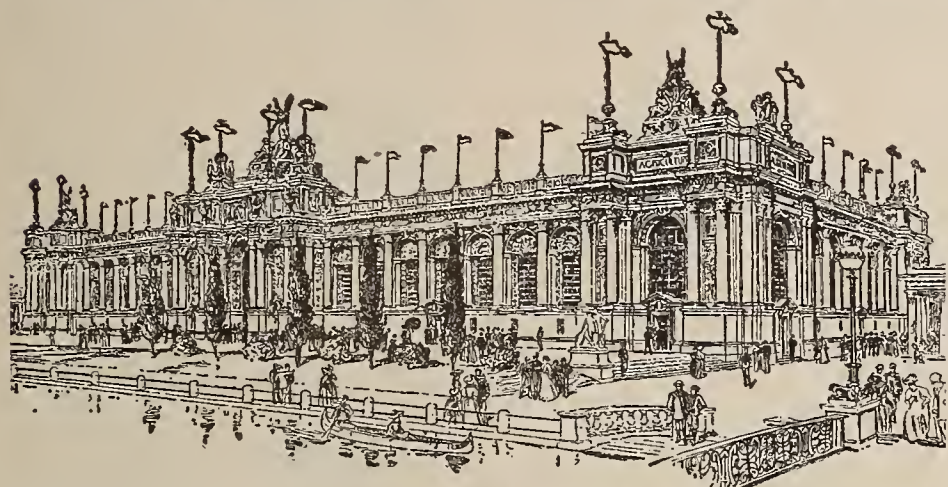
The first formal meeting was held at Washington, D. C., November 15, 1867, when the preface to the constitution, and the names "Patrons of Husbandry" and of "Grange," for its constituent bodies and their places of meeting, were adopted. At an adjourned meeting, held December 4th, the officers were duly elected. Brother Wm. Saunders was elected master, and Brother O. H. Kelley, now of Carrabelle, Florida, was elected secretary. The motto

timber, where the breeze is shut away, he will become panting hot in an hour.

Almost all our breezes on hot summer days come from the south, yet by actual count, in my neighborhood more than one third of the farm-houses have a growth of orchard and wind-break to the south, almost completely cutting off the summer breezes. The result through the summer is a well-cooked batch of women-folks at dinner each day and a sultry place to sleep at night.

Did you ever on a winter day, when a norther was blowing, bundle up good with overcoat and gloves? Then you hustled lively to keep warm while doing chores, and went down into the timber to chop. Very soon you shed your overcoat; then off came coat, vest and gloves. How the weather did moderate! Still, when you crossed the prairie to go to dinner you needed coat, overcoat and gloves. Yes; and that wind went through all of them and seemed to go to the very marrow of your bones.

One half of the farm-houses and barns about me are perfectly barren of a wind-break to the north. If you can arrange to have your orchard, with a good timber



AGRICULTURAL BUILDING AT THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPOSITION, TO BE HELD AT OMAHA, JUNE TO NOVEMBER, 1898. Dimensions, 150x400 feet.

of the order at that time was "vis unita fortior" (power united is stronger), which was afterward changed to the present motto, "esto perpetua" (may it be perpetual). The fourth day of December is therefore the birthday of the order, and is almost universally observed by the subordinate granges as a day for the annual reunion for the members of the order.

In 1868 11 granges were organized; in 1869, 38; in 1870, 39; in 1871, 125; in 1872, 1,362; in 1873, 7,688; in 1874, 11,941, during which year 24 state granges were organized. In 1875, while but 885 new granges were organized, there were still in existence 15,800 subordinate granges, with a total paying membership of over 500,000 in the United States. It is a fact, even more true to-day than then, that the membership of the grange is many times greater than that of all other farmers' organizations combined.

The true objective point to be obtained by the members of the order is now acknowledged to be that of rendering agricultural pursuits more attractive to the rising generation, by inciting in them a desire for the better education and the consequent social advancement of the farming class. The grange organization is united in the effort of securing at our agricultural and mechanical colleges and the experiment stations in each state and territory special educational advantages for farmers' sons and daughters for acquiring a special knowledge of the sciences and arts relating directly to agriculture. This is resulting in rendering farm life more attractive to the young people within our American farm homes. The permanency of the grange organization is now assured. It has come to stay. Many of the leading men throughout the states and territories are now included in its membership.

The organization as now conducted ought to, and does, command the hearty co-operation of all who believe that earnest labor of the brain and hand is essential in ennobling manhood and womanhood, and in building and perpetuating the crowning glory of our free institutions, our American homes.

W. M. K.

WIND-SHELTERS.

Much of convenience and comfort in farm life depends on the relative location of house-lots and outbuildings.

You have noticed that a horse in an open field will do ordinary work for a full half of a hot summer day and not become overheated; but if you put him to the same work behind a high hedge or growth of

wind-break, extend along the north of yard and lots you will avoid much of the discomforts of winter, and it will save you coal, hay and corn.

WILL ALLEN.

Kansas.

MAKING CHEESE AT HOME.

Here are directions for making cheese, so plain that any farmer's wife can make delicious cheese for her family:

If you have not milk enough at one milking, save two or three, but keep it perfectly sweet, with all the cream stirred in. Fill a boiler with milk, put it on the stove, add two level tablespoonfuls of salt, and heat it up to 90 degrees Fahrenheit, stirring all the time; set it off the stove and add one teaspoonful of liquid rennet—which you can buy at a drug-store—stir it well through the milk, cover with a cloth and let it alone for an hour. The curd is then set, and with a long, thin knife cut it up into inch squares, after which let it set another half an hour, or until the whey rises to the top of the curd; lay a piece of cheese-cloth over the curd, and with a cup dip off all the whey possible; stir the curd up carefully and dip again, getting off all you can. Set the boiler back on the stove and heat the curd up to 110 degrees, stirring all the time and carefully breaking the curd into lumps the size of the end of your finger; when it reaches 110 degrees set it off the stove and dip off all the whey remaining—or pour it off, as the curd will settle to the bottom. Spread a piece of cheese-cloth over the cheese-hoop and put the curd into it, packing it in a little at a time; spread the ends of the cloth evenly over the curd, and place a round board, fitting inside the hoop, on the curd, putting on a big rock or anything heavy for a weight; leave it on a day, then take out the cheese, turn it over and replace the weight. The next day take it out of the hoop, sew a muslin bandage around it, grease it all over with melted butter and put it in a cool, dry place; any room without fire will do, except on the hottest days, when it should be placed in the cellar. Turn it every day for a month. If mold forms, scrape it off and grease again. No flies must be allowed in the room. In four or five weeks it will be good, and get better until it is three months old. The curing is the most particular part. The curd must be handled carefully, as the cream runs off if it is worked too much.

Have the cheese-hoop made by a tinner, or you can make one from a round, five-gallon oil-can by cutting off the top and

bottom. A convenient size is ten inches deep and eight inches wide. Have a smooth board on which to set it.

MRS. J. A. REEHER.

THE OHIO DAIRY-SCHOOL.

The fourth annual session of the special course in dairying of the Ohio State University begins on Wednesday, January 5, 1898, and continues ten weeks. While the equipment for the work in dairying has been quite complete heretofore, the appointments have been meager in comparison with what they will be this winter. The work will be done in Townshend Hall, the new agricultural building which is being erected and equipped by the university at a cost of nearly \$100,000. Six thousand square feet of space on the ground floor will be devoted to the special work in dairying. No finer suite of rooms for this purpose can be found anywhere. The machinery and equipment will be of the most approved kind for butter and cheese making, and for the Pasteurizing and testing of milk. The various lectures on feeding, breeding, judging, management and diseases of cattle, on the chemistry and bacteriology of milk, butter and cheese, will be given by the regular professors of the university, who are experts in their several lines. The practical work in butter and cheese making will be in direct charge of Professor Noyes, who has so successfully conducted this work the past two seasons. Besides having had five years' experience in teaching, Professor Noyes has been in practical work for more than twenty years, and at present owns and operates three cheese-factories. Those who have studied butter and cheese making under Professor Noyes have been successful to a high degree. The outlook for work in this line in Ohio for those who will prepare themselves was never brighter than at the present time.

Any person, man or woman, who has a good common education can enter the dairy-school. The better the education the better the results. The university charges \$15 in fees for this special dairy course, and the total expense, including fees, room, board, books, etc., need not exceed sixty dollars, and may be less. Any young man of ordinary ability can earn enough more the first season to more than pay the total expense of the course. A postal-card addressed to the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Domestic Science, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, will secure an illustrated pamphlet fully describing the special course in dairying.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM MISSOURI.—This year our cotton and corn crops are short, cotton making from five to twelve hundred pounds, and corn from fifteen to forty bushels to the acre. Our fruit crop is very good. We have a good fruit country. Apples, pears, peaches and small fruits do well. Forest land can be bought for from \$2.50 to \$6.00 an acre; cleared and improved land from \$10.00 to \$25.00 an acre. The natural range is good for both hogs and cattle,

as acorns, wild peas and grass are plentiful. Our forests have plenty of game, such as deer, turkeys, ducks, rabbits, squirrels, quails, opossums, coons and some black bears. We need more people with hustle, energy and capital to develop our goodly heritage. We earnestly and cordially invite and welcome honest, enterprising investors and home-seekers. Come while you can get a cheap home.

F. F. P.

Cardwell, Dunklin county, Mo.

FROM OREGON.—Douglas county is one of the most favored sections of Oregon. The climate cannot be surpassed; there are no high winds at any time of the year. It is one of the best fruit sections on the Pacific coast. There is an abundance of timber, consisting of oak, pine, fir, etc.; also plenty of good mountain soft water. Land can be bought for from \$2.50 to \$5.00 an acre. It is also an excellent stock country, stock of all kinds wintering without feed.

A. W. S.

Brockway, Oregon.

FROM KANSAS.—I live in the northern part of Jewell county, Kansas, near the Nebraska line, seven miles from Superior, Nebraska. We have good crops this year of corn, wheat, oats, grass, etc. There has been some hog-cholera, but now, as far as I can learn, the country is about free from the disease. Jewell county is the banner corn and hog county of Kansas. There will be a great many cattle fed this winter in this part of the country. Land is higher in price than two years ago; quarter-sections are held from \$1,600 to \$4,000, according to improvements, distance from town, etc. Superior is a good place of 2,000 people, located in the Republican valley, with five railroads, flouring-mill, cheese-factory, creamery, brick-yard, water-works, electric lights, etc. This is a healthful country and has plenty of good water.

G. M. J.

Superior, Neb.

FLORIDA Those wishing to make a home in the South for pleasure or profit should write to Francis Improvement Society, Francis, Fla.

We PAY CASH each WEEK the year round, if you sell Stark Trees. Outfit free. STARK NURSERY, LOUISIANA, MO., Stark, Mo., Rockport, Ill., Dansville, N. Y.

WANTED A FEW GOOD SALESMEN to take orders for Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Roses, etc. Good Pay. No experience necessary. Outfit Free. Address H. P. FREEMAN & CO., Nurserymen, Rochester, N. Y.

850,000 GRAPE VINES 100 Varieties. Also Small Fruits, Trees, &c. Best rootstock. Genuine, cheap. 2 sample vines mailed for 10c. Descriptive price-list free. LEWIS ROESCH, Fredonia, N. Y.

Great Bargains in Florida Property 300 ACRES best sugar, tobacco or vegetable land, on railroad. Nice orange and hearing pear grove, city lots and cottages at half value, or will rent them (save this will not) for winter. Fine locations. Must be sold, appear again. J. H. H. WALLING, Orange Park, Clay Co., Florida.

FOR SALE—FARM Three miles from Terre Haute, Ind. 80 Acres. All under cultivation but four or five acres. Good house and barn. Electric street-cars run within one mile of it. Will sell on long time, as I have no use for a farm. Address JAMES A. SMITH, P. O. Box 257, Peoria, Illinois.

Death To High Prices. We sell direct to the Farmer at Dealer's Prices. 16-in. Sulky Plows, \$25. 16-in. S. B. Plows, \$29. Rolling Cutters, extra, \$1.50. 64-T. Lever Harrow, \$7.60. Mowers, \$29.40. Riding Gang Plows, \$35. 12-16 Disc Harrow, \$16. Hay Rakes, \$11.65. 9-in. Wagon, \$39. Buggies, Harness, Sewing Machines, Cider Mills, \$12.74. Corn Sheller, \$10.75. 8 Hoe Drill, \$29.40. 5 Hoe Drill, \$10.75. and 1000 other things at one-half dealer's prices. Catalog free. Hagood Plow Co., Box 428, Alton, Ill. The only Plow Factory in the U. S. selling direct to the consumer.

CUT YOUR FEED 44 sizes & styles with the WOLVERINE. Has knives with 4 cutting edges. It's a great improvement. We can also attach our new Shredder head to our cutters. Guaranteed to be the best. Price \$2.50 and up. Largest cuts ton in five minutes. MARVIN SMITH CO. 466 S. Clinton St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Nos. 0 & 00 Hand Feed Cutters.

A Klondyke GOLD MINE

Is practically developed on every farm that adopts Smalley Methods of stock feeding, and uses our famous Family of Feed Savers, which embraces ensilage and fodder cutters, farm feed mills and ear corn grinders, root cutters and corn shellers. We also manufacture the largest and most complete line of WOOD SAWS and FARM POWERS on earth. You can make no mistake by obtaining our Catalogue and prices. "CORN HAY"—our '97 Feeders pamphlet, free to any address. RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED in all unoccupied territory. A remarkable offer now open on your first order. Ask for it to-day.

SMALLEY MFG. CO., Manitowoc, Wis.

Electric Root Cutter.

A SMALL THRESHING MACHINE

Something for the farmer, who can do his own threshing, with less help and power than ever before. We also make a full line of Sweep and Tread Powers.

BELLE CITY FEED AND ENSILAGE CUTTERS

Made in all sizes, for both hand & power use. Send for illustrated catalogue and price list. Will send latest publication on Ensilage to all who write for it.

The Columbia Thresher

has great capacity, and can be run by light power. Send for illustrated catalogue giving testimonials.

BELLE CITY MFG. CO. Bx 55, Racine, Wis.

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammononton, New Jersey.

BEGINNERS WITH POULTRY.

It is unfortunate for one to enter into a business and fail because of ignorance or lack of knowledge of how to manage, and it is seldom that it is done in mercantile pursuits; yet hundreds attempt the poultry business under the supposition that "anybody can raise chickens," when the fact is that the poultry business requires more skill in management than is required in raising cattle or other large stock. The reason is that if a farmer has one or two cows, the small number permits him to become familiar with each animal. He knows their peculiarities, the kinds of food preferred by each, and should one of them become sick he quickly detects it and at once proceeds to use remedies, if necessary sitting up all night to take care of it. With a flock of fifty hens, however, the case is different. Although the flock will not require any more room than one cow, yet there are fifty individuals, each being entirely different in many respects from the others, and all having their characteristics and peculiarities, making it much more difficult to understand their requirements. The ordinary farm-hand seldom notices the poultry except to occasionally give a mess of corn, and but few farmers give sufficient personal attention to fully understand the thorough management of a flock so as to derive the largest profit therefrom. On the large majority of farms the owners do not know how many fowls they lose in a year from the numerous causes and dangers, and there are also hundreds of farmers who do not know whether their fowls pay or not.

If the beginner (perhaps some person who desires to seek a living outside of a city on a limited capital) is to succeed he must pursue a course which differs from that usually practised on farms. But how is he to know, and how can he anticipate the various conditions under obstacles which he may meet? Even a small investment is a great deal when it represents all, perhaps the savings of years; hence the greater necessity for knowledge in going into the poultry business.

It is possible that a beginner may have fair success the first year, but as a rule such is not generally the case. The only safe mode is to begin with a few, expect no profit the first year and but little the next, devoting the time to learning without incurring much risk, and success will come later.

THE CONDITIONS TO SUCCESS.

There is an innate instinct from the wild condition which prompts all birds to produce their young only during the most favorable seasons. Egg-laying is simply a reproduction of the species, and nature's laws will be obeyed closely by all of the animal kingdom, unless man steps in and imitates nature or changes the conditions. Food alone will not induce fowls to lay, as food is only a provision against cold. The winter season must be made to correspond with spring, which is attempted when warm houses, sunlight and a variety of food is given. The poultry-house must not only be warm and light, but also roomy and ample, with opportunities for exercise. Simple imprisonment of the birds in a warm room, with an abundance of food and enforced idleness, will not conduce to egg production. The fowls must be contented, kept busy, not overfed, and be where they are not surrounded with filth. The man is the main factor in the matter. The conditions will be whatever he makes them, and the nearer he approaches the privileges to be secured in spring the more productive will be the flock.

MARKETING VALUABLE PRODUCTS.

A careful consideration of all the facts will probably show that poultry and eggs can be made a business on some farms to better advantage than anything else. If the expense is in hauling the produce to market, especially over bad roads, the more valuable the article hauled, and the smaller its weight and bulk, the better. It is therefore easier to handle poultry and eggs than grain, hay or even large stock.

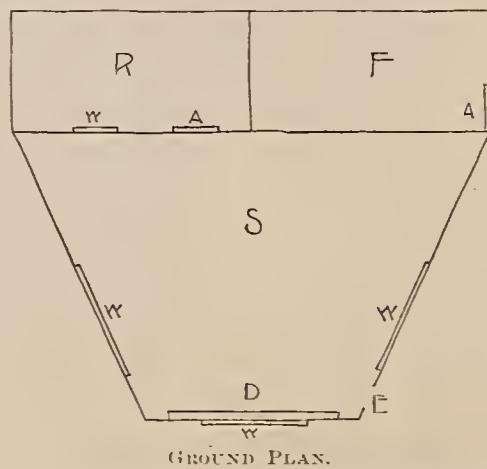
It is safe to assert that fowls can also be kept on farms at a distance at smaller cost, as they can be given all the range they desire. Much of the poultry that comes to

the East from the far West costs the farmers but little, the fowls requiring no food other than that picked up in the summer, and for that reason farmers are satisfied with lower prices than they should receive.

The farmer who will endeavor to make the market demand his poultry, by raising only the kinds that possess merit, will succeed, but he must take time to secure the customers. All articles produced on the farm are valued according to their abundance, and when all the farmers neglect the more difficultly raised articles and grow those that require the least labor, they will find less profit on farms. The great drawback to poultry-raising is that from long custom so many have refused to spend "labor" in that direction. It is sometimes more profitable to haul a basket of eggs than a load of hay to market, but the farmer will not be satisfied to drive his team several miles with a partially empty wagon, but will haul a heavy load of some less valuable product, because it makes a load. The farmer who is off from a railroad should grow those products which entail the least cost in marketing, and in this line he will find nothing so profitable as poultry and eggs.

WELL-LIGHTED POULTRY-HOUSE.

The diagram shown below illustrates the ground plan of a poultry-house so arranged that it will receive the sun's rays from early morning until late in the afternoon, and is designed by Dr. L. B. Lucas, of Indiana. The house is composed of three



rooms, separated by two partitions. An arrangement for separating the layers and non-layers is as follows: Openings are cut in the partitions, boxes are placed in the partitions, the boxes corresponding with the openings. The hens are placed in one end room and those which lay will enter the open door of the nest-box, the door closing and opening one on the opposite end of the box; when the hen goes out into the middle room, she closes the door behind her and opens the one through which she entered the nest-box. AA are doors, WWW are windows, E an entrance, D the dust-box, S the scratching-room, F the feed-room, and R the roosting-room. The house may be of any size preferred.

FLOOR SPACE IN THE POULTRY-HOUSE.

More room is required in the poultry-house in winter than in summer, because during the warm season the fowls can go outside, only requiring sufficient room for roosting, but in winter they need room for scratching when the snow is on the ground. It is the space on the floor that is required, and not on the roost, for when a hen fixes herself on the roost she will be quiet until morning, but during the day she should be kept busy. Ten fowls in a poultry-house ten feet square (making 100 square feet) are sufficient, but most persons endeavor to double or even treble that number, and the consequence is that they keep too many fowls in proportion to the area of floor space.

FEEDING IN WINTER.

The matter of feeding in winter, in order to make the hens lay when prices are high, is one requiring the best judgment. There is much to do in observing the hens. Any rule laid down for all to follow cannot be observed in general, as so much depends on locality and circumstances. Fowls differ, and it is only the one who attends to a flock who can rightly judge what should be done.

While it is an accepted fact that food is converted into eggs, yet success depends upon the kind of food. Poultrymen are admonished against corn, but there are days during the cold season when corn proves to be the best food that can be

allowed, and the proportions given must be regulated by the conditions of the hens. The great problem in the management of poultry is to learn how to feed. No one can instruct on the subject, except to call attention to certain undeniable truths connected with feeding, for the one who knows how to feed must learn by daily observations; and while successful with one flock there will be much to learn in managing another.

LOSS OF CHICKS.

Young chicks seem to die off rapidly at times, and with no apparent cause; but there is a cause, and it can be usually traced to the food. They are pets, and are usually attended to by various members of the family, the disposition being to give them as much food as they can consume, and as frequently as possible, resulting in the waste of a portion, which soon begins to ferment. Now, it is this fermented food which destroys so many young chicks. It would be to their advantage to allow them to seek as much of their food as possible, feeding only a small quantity at a time; and it will be found, upon trial of such a plan, that they will thrive better than when fed too frequently.

PROCURING MALES.

Male birds must now be gotten out of the way by breeders who are mating their flocks, and they can be had at very reasonable prices; in fact, some breeders have advertised pure-bred males at one dollar each, a price which removes all excuses for keeping scrub males on the farm. As one male may be mated with from ten to fifteen hens or pullets, the gain to the farmer in the improvement of his flock for next year cannot be estimated very easily, but it is safe to claim that if large flocks are to be retained next year, a male will return his cost a hundredfold.

EGGS IN THE ARTS.

Many eggs are used by bakers for cakes, pies, etc., not only for the albumen and yolks, but also for the coloring matter. It is estimated that 40,000,000 eggs are annually used by calico-printers and about 120,000,000 by photographic establishments, wine-clarifiers, bookbinders, glove-makers, leather-finishers, etc. The estimate may not be strictly correct, but that a large number are so used are well known.

DRY EARTH.

Every season the admonition to lay in a supply of dry earth has been given, and it is one of the most important points to observe. A supply of dry earth, stored under shelter for winter use, will be found very valuable during the winter when the ground is frozen, and it will serve many purposes. As it costs nothing but the labor of storing it away, it should be attended to before the wet season begins.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Feeding Oats.—L. M. La Salle, Ill., writes: "I am informed that oats are not suitable as poultry food. Give your opinion thereon." **REPLY:**—Oats are excellent, but should not be fed exclusively; mix with other grains.

Hens Not Laying.—C. B. Redwood City, Cal., writes: "I have a hen that goes on the nest every day, cackles, but does not lay." **REPLY:**—The cause is that she has been overfed and has some disease of the reproductive organs. It is a frequent occurrence with fowls.

Linseed-meal.—J. G. T. Cleveland, Tenn., writes: "How should linseed-meal be fed, and how often?"

REPLY:—Three times a week is sufficient. Add a gill of linseed-meal to one pint of corn-meal and half a pint of animal-meal, mix to a stiff dough, and give as an evening meal to twelve fowls.

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Queries.

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Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Pickling Shallots.—A. S., Canton, Ill., asks for a recipe for pickling shallots. Can any one give it?

Milk-tickets.—F. G. H., Mt. Clemens, Mich. You will find description of improved milk-tickets in the catalogue of Cornish, Curtis & Greene Mfg. Co., Fort Atkinson, Wis.

Ginseng.—L. B., Sawkill, N. Y. For pamphlet containing full information about the culture of ginseng, send five cents to Superintendent of Documents, Union Building, Washington, D. C., for Bulletin No. 16—"American Ginseng: Its Commercial History, Protection and Cultivation."

The Onion-maggot.—A. P. S., Milford, N. H., writes: "Is there anything under the light of the sun that will prevent the maggots from destroying onions and turnips?"

REPLY BY T. GREINER:—Neither under the light of the sun nor of the moon, so far as I know, except it be good luck. I plant, and then take the risk. I have invariably a lot of radishes growing near those other garden crops, and frequently lose whole sowings of radishes, while the onions and turnips are rarely ever attacked by the maggots. Possibly the radishes may be the first choice of the maggots.

Wintering Onions.—A. O., Toulon, Ill. The following hints from the "New Onion Culture" answer your questions: Never attempt to keep onions that are not capped over perfectly, and not entirely dormant, both at top and root part. If they are thus perfect it will not be a hard task to keep them over winter, provided you have a dry, cool and airy room, where you can keep them from freezing. Never store them in a large bulk together. Onions will keep quite well when frozen. Store on the floor of some outbuilding, say fifteen inches deep, and as far away from the wall; when frozen, cover with a two-foot layer of hay, but do not handle them.

Banking and Storing Celery.—A. O., Gazil, W. Va., writes: "At what time should I begin to heap earth around celery that is planted in trenches? How do you keep celery in the cellar after it is taken up, and also when is the best time for taking it up?" P. M. C., Goodwin's Mills, Me., also asks for the best way to keep celery in winter.

REPLY BY T. GREINER:—When celery intended for fall use is to be banked with earth I usually begin hilling in September, depending on size of plants and time they are wanted for use. I usually blanch with boards, and find this method more convenient than banking with soil. Celery that is to be stored in the cellar should not be blanched before storing. All that is necessary is to hill sufficiently (or board up) to make the plants grow straight and compact; then, just before heavy freezing is expected and while the plants are dry, take them up with soil adhering to the roots and place them, standing perpendicularly, upon a moist cellar floor, packing moist soil, muck or sand well around them. Keep this soil moist, or even wet, but the tops dry, and surely do not let frost touch them. The plants will blanch beautifully in a few weeks.

Roots in Tile-drains.—J. R. O., Pontiac, Ill., writes: "Having had some trouble with the roots of willows and elms filling tile-drains, I would like to know if there are any kinds of shade-trees that can be planted along tile-drains which will not cause this trouble."

REPLY:—Elms and willows are more apt to obstruct tile-drains with their roots than the trees adapted to dry soil, but we know of no shade-tree that could be planted along tile-drains without danger. The cause of the trouble is not in particular kinds of trees, but rather in special conditions under which roots of trees—and of some field crops, even—are attracted to the drains. A drain from a spring, or one carrying a perpetual stream of water, will in periods of drought be invaded by roots seeking moisture, and will in time become completely obstructed. On the other hand, drains that flow intermittently and are dry for several weeks in the summer are rarely invaded by roots. If there is a perennial stream of water in your drain, the remedy will depend on conditions not given in your letter. For instance, if it is an outlet drain from clear, low ground leading by a clump of trees, the trouble can be prevented by laying that portion of the drain within reach of the roots with vitrified or sewer pipe, and cementing the joints perfectly. In some cases the only remedy is to cut down the offending trees.

Fertilizers for Vegetables.—H. T., Santa Barbara, Cal., writes: "Please give your advice as to the most advantageous fertilizer to buy and apply for vegetable gardening where barn-yard manure is not easily obtainable, with such hints as to relative cost as may be useful."

REPLY BY T. GREINER:—This question puzzles me simply because I do not know the nature of your soil, nor the materials offered in your markets, or their prices. If I had a rather stiff soil for which I had no stable manure, I would grow a big crop of clover, with the help of a few hundred pounds to the acre each of dissolved bone or rock (superphosphate), or of bone-meal or basic slag, etc., and of muriate of potash, and plow the clover—or at least the second crop—under for manure. Then, to raise big crops of vegetables on the soil thus fed, I would use more of the same ingredients and possibly a few hundred pounds of nitrate of soda; lime as an occasional change might give good results. For warm, loose soils that are well supplied with humus you might use a ton or less of a fertilizer composed somewhat like this: Nitrate of soda, 200 pounds; superphosphate, 600 pounds; muriate of potash, 200 pounds. Other plant-food materials, such as oil-meals, blood, bone-dust, wood ashes, might be substituted or added, according to circumstances. Better read a popular work on the chemistry of manures.

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VETERINARY.

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To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE:—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

A Twin Heifer.—W. J. H., Walnut Hill, Ill. If twin calves of different sex are born, it is claimed that one of them, as a rule, will prove to be barren; that is, will not breed.

Sick Pigs.—S. T. B., New Buffalo, Mich. I am unable to tell what may ail your pigs, because you give no description of sickness whatever, but simply say that your pigs take sick and die.

Ringbone and Spavin.—J. M. B., Gladstone, Manitoba, and J. P. S., Downing, Wis. You will find a lengthy article on the treatment of spavin and ringbone in one of the November numbers of FARM AND FIRESIDE of 1896, and another will appear November 15th, 1897.

Cow Coughs in the Morning.—A. T. D., Ashland, Mass. I would advise you to have your cow subjected to the tuberculin test, which will not at all be difficult in Massachusetts. Please see answer given to W. B. W., Savannah, Ga., under the heading "Dry, Hacking Cough."

Dry, Hacking Cough.—W. B. W., Savannah, Ga. Although it is impossible to base a diagnosis upon one solitary symptom, especially if the same is a symptom common to quite a large number of diseases, in a cow, particularly if the cow is a little Jersey, a dry, hacking cough is always suggestive of tuberculosis, and must be taken as a hint that it may be well to subject such a cow to the tuberculin test.

Sore Throat.—E. N. A., Gainesville, N. Y. There is no doubt that your mare some time ago had an attack of distemper and is now suffering from some soreness in the respiratory passages, but it is doubtful whether the present ailment is a direct or indirect consequence of the distemper or is not at all connected with that disease. Therefore, it will be advisable to have the mare thoroughly examined by a competent veterinarian, and thus obtain a reliable diagnosis.

Spavin.—D. M. S., Wampum, Pa., writes: "I followed the directions you gave for the treatment of spavin, and had the satisfaction of completely curing a mare that had been very lame for a year, removing the lump and leaving the joint smooth and clean. I wish to express my thanks to you for your minute and careful directions for the treatment of this disease. I followed them very carefully, with the above result. All that occurred a year ago, almost, and the mare has not seemed a bit lame since."

Prolapsus of the Rectum.—C. D. S., Shoreham, Vt. What you call "piles" appears to be a prolapsus of the rectum. As the same is already of long standing and the prolapsed portion of the rectum very much degenerated and morbid, the only remedy consists in a surgical operation, to be performed by an experienced surgeon; therefore, I have to advise you to have your shoat operated on by a good veterinarian. If you should attempt it yourself you very likely would kill the animal, hence a description of the operation can do no good.

Probably Punctured Hoofs.—D. W. S., Verne, Ind. What you describe appears to me to be a case of punctured hoofs, and there can be no doubt that it is if your horse has been foundered (has at some time been affected with founder or laminitis). If you have a good horse-shoer, let him examine the hoofs, and ask him how it would do to shoe the horse with good bar-shoes, with a broad web, and on the upper surface very concave inside of the nail-holes. Such shoes will very much benefit your horse if it is punctured hoofs that ails him, but they must be reset once a month.

Skin and Bones.—T. M., Neosho, Mo. All the description you give is contained in the words, "My hog for awhile had a very good appetite, but that is gone, or nearly so, and he is now nothing but skin and bones." This information, you will easily see, is entirely too meager to base upon it any diagnosis whatever. It is true you tell what medicines you have given and what food you have fed, but all this does not throw any light upon the nature of the disease. If swine-plague (so-called hog-cholera) is prevailing in your neighborhood, it is possible that your hog is suffering from that disease.

Stung by Bees or Hornets.—H. B., Island Creek, Mass. You say your cow was stung by bees or hornets some two weeks (when this reaches you, four weeks) ago on the head and neck; that it did not seem to injure her much, but that now the skin seems to crack. The first effect—which, if it had been severe, might have been alleviated by applications of ammonia—has passed off, and, according to your statement, only a tendency of the skin to crack remains. This you may counteract by liberal applications two or three times a day of a mixture of lime-water and sweet-oil, equal parts; or if the cracks are rather deep, by applications of a mixture of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, and sweet-oil, three parts.

Anasarca.—Q. D. S., Neoga, Ill. The more or less soft (edematous) swellings under the lower jaw of your lambs are produced by dropsical effusion beneath the skin (anasarca) and the result of a blood very poor in solid constituents and very rich in water (hydremic). These swellings, therefore, just the same as ascites (abdominal dropsy) and hydrothorax (dropsy in the chest), are the direct consequence of a watery (hydremic) condition of the blood, which latter, in sheep at least, is nearly always the (indirect) product of existing worm diseases, particularly of the disease caused by the presence of the liver-flukes (Distomum hepaticum and lanceolatum) in the liver and hepatic ducts. But as the hydromic condition of the blood only gradually develops and does not make its appearance until the worm disease has made considerable progress, and has very seriously interfered with the process of nutrition, and as the hydromic effusions beneath the skin (the swellings you describe) do not make their appearance until the blood has become very hydremic, the appearance of these swellings must be looked upon as an almost invariably fatal symptom of an existing worm disease.

Only such animals as are yet strong and vigorous, do not show the least indication of such swellings, and evidently do not harbor a large number of worms, may pull through and live if they receive nutritious food and good care, while all those that are seriously affected, even if they should pass through the winter, will die in the spring. There is no way of removing fluke-worms out of the liver. The prevention consists in keeping sheep away from low and wet ground and stagnant water. Where that cannot be done sheep-raising must be abandoned.

To Prevent Saddle-galls.—E. J. J., Blaine, Nev. The only way to prevent the production of bruises and sores on the back of a saddle-horse is to use a saddle that fits the animal, and is sufficiently high in the chamber to use a blanket that will not form any wrinkles or folds (a good felt blanket is the best); to see to it that the girths are tight enough to prevent any shifting of the saddle, and last, but not least, to sit straight in the saddle and not to fall asleep while on horse-back. That a horse with a galled or bruised and sore back should not be used under the saddle until fully recovered will not need any explanation. Your saddle evidently does not fit your horse, though it may be all right on some other horse of different build.

Luxation of the Patella.—R. M. A., Roanoke, Mo. According to your description it appears that your mule is suffering from repeated luxations of the patella (knee-pan). In such animals the patella usually slips out of its place while they are getting up or getting down, and very seldom otherwise; it is therefore advisable to keep them standing for a few weeks, and meanwhile to make a few applications, four days apart, of a good blister on both sides of the joint a little below the patella. For this purpose oil of cantharides, prepared by heating one part of cantharides and four parts of oil for one hour in a water-bath, is to be preferred. Any druggist will make it for you. The object of these applications is to produce swelling and pain, and in this way prevent a slipping of the patella out of its place until the relaxed ligaments have had time to contract. It may not be necessary to explain that every new dislocation of the patella causes a relaxation and lengthening of one or more of the lower ligaments.

Lung-worms.—C. S., Lee Center, Ill. The coughing of your pigs and the discharges from the nose are caused by the presence of lung-worms (probably Strongylus paradoxus) in the finer bronchial ramifications in the lungs. The same are different from, and have nothing to do with, the worms which are passing off with the dung. But the presence of both kinds shows that your pigs either have been kept on low and wet ground or have had access to stagnant water contaminated with the worm-brood. Nothing can be done against the lung-worms, because they cannot be dislodged without the greatest danger to the life of the host. The intestinal worms can be reached by worm medicines; but as they are passing off and do not multiply in the intestines it will hardly be necessary to pay much attention to them. At any rate, the lung-worms do vastly more damage than those in the intestines. The former also will leave when their time comes, but this may not be until all those pigs which harbor large numbers, and at the same time are not strong and vigorous, have died. The lung-worm disease is best prevented by keeping the pigs, particularly young ones, away from wet ground and stagnant water contaminated with worm-brood.

Probably Infectious Abortion.—A. T. R., Fridley, Minn. If last winter as many as nine of your cows aborted, the abortion evidently is of the infectious kind. The prevention consists in, first, removing all the cows that are with calf and have not yet shown any sign of approaching abortion to a non-infected place, away from the infected premises; second, thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting the premises where the abortions took place; third, cremating the aborted fetuses and afterbirths; fourth, disinfecting the internal and external genital organs of the cows that have aborted; the former by injecting into them a milk-warm solution of corrosive sublimate in water, one part of the sublimate to 1,500 of water, and the external genitals, tail included, by washing them first with soap and water, and then with a solution of corrosive sublimate, one part in 1,000 parts of water. This disinfection may be once or twice repeated until the discharge of lochia has ceased. After the disinfected premises have been well aired for a couple of weeks, so as to give the greatest possible access to sunlight and fresh air, the cows yet with calf may be returned to their former quarters. As to your special case I will yet draw your attention to the fact that an abortion, no matter what may constitute the cause, always more or less increases the predisposition to abort again. Therefore, a cow that has once lost her calf cannot any more be considered as a safe breeder.

Tapeworms in a Dog.—H. J., Rose Hill, Kansas. According to your description there is no doubt that your dog has tapeworms, but it does not proceed from your description what kind, for there are several kinds of tapeworms found in dogs. Still, since your dog is a shepherd-dog, it is probable that his tapeworms are those known under the name of Taenia caninus, which also would tally with your description as far as it has been given. This will be the more probable if either you or your neighbors have lost any sheep affected with a disease called "gid," or "staggers," which is caused by the larvae of the above-named tapeworm. If such is the case it is advisable to kill the dog, unless the same is an animal of considerable value; if it is, it will be advisable to subject him to treatment. To make the latter effective it is necessary to first prepare the patient for the treatment proper by giving for two days nothing but fluid and well-salted food (soup), and nothing at all on the third day, on which the medicine is given. For the latter Professor Zuern recommends, for a dog like yours, ten grams (about one third of an ounce) of powdered fresh areca-nut (old areca-nuts, which have been kept a long time in the drug-store, are no good and have no effect) mixed with fresh butter and given as an electuary. If inside of two hours the tapeworms do not pass off, Professor Zuern recommends to give a spoonful of castor-oil. To prevent future cases, provided the tapeworms of your dog prove to be Taenia caninus, should any sheep of yours or your neighbors die of gid, or staggers, it will be necessary to either cremate the heads of such sheep or to bury them so deep that no dog can resurrect them, because the heads of such sheep contain, embedded in the brain, the larva form of the tapeworm, and from the eggs of the latter, deposited with the proglottides on the grass, develop, if the grass is eaten by sheep, the larvae in the heads of the sheep, and thus cause the disease known as gid, or staggers.

Attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of James A. Smith, Peoria, Ill.,—"For Sale—Farm"—an exceptional opportunity to acquire a fine property on easy terms.

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FRANK A. MUNSEY, New York.

Our Fireside.

I AM LONELY TO-NIGHT.

I am lonely to-night, and the dripping rain
Is beating on roof and on window-pane.
The sad mourning wind round the chimney sighs,
My lamp burns low, and flickers and dies.
As I sit in my study with half-closed eyes,
I am lonely to-night.

I am lonely to-night, for I'm far from home,
And memory turns in the past to roam,
Reviewing the scenes, some grave, some gay,
Scenes which belong to the far away.
As I sit in the dusk, at the close of day,
I'm so lonely to-night.

I am lonely to-night, and I long to be
A child again at my mother's knee;
But the world is so big and the years soon fly,
We just learn to love and then say "good-by."
As I sit in the dark, there's a tear in my eye,
For I'm lonely to-night.

Am I lonely to-night? But I'm not alone;
Let the rain beat hard and the sad winds moan;
Storms followed by sunshine and darkness by day,
He that stilleth the tempest is not far away.
With Him ever near me, why should I say
I am lonely to-night?

Am I lonely to-night? Yet why do I sigh?
The clouds are but hiding a star-studded sky.
Am I far from my loved ones? Why then do I pine?
We all on the same loving bosom recline.
And it must be a part of his gracious design
That I'm lonely to-night.

Am I lonely to-night? But I am not sad,
The thoughts of the darkness have made me glad.
The sun only sets to reveal the stars;
Our own poor light our vision but mars.
And each little raindrop on quick senses jars,
When we're lonely at night.
—M. H. Anderson.

ANN TRISKET'S PRIDE.

BY WILL BURNET.

PART II.

WERE you not satisfied with Ann's story, Grandmother Barbara, telling how her stubborn pride has brought her to the ashes of desolation? Well, here is another chapter.

"At the Sanatorium I give message to a rich woman about your age, Mrs. Gracie, who is always talking about her aches and pains, and complaining of her miseries, until a blue streak seems to

follow wherever she goes. One day when she was worse than usual I asked her if she thought she knew what real suffering and misery was; then I told her the story of Ann.

"Why did you tell me the story of this miserable old woman?" she exclaimed, angrily.

"I said nothing.

"Don't you think I have unhappiness enough of my own without inflicting the tortments of other people upon me?"

"I knew Mrs. Gracie, and kept my lips firmly closed.

"My next patient, Mrs. Rosewater, a gay society girl, married when very young, has broken her health with the dissipation of society life. For months she has been kept on low diet, and I have often seen her so hungry that the tears would spring into her eyes at the very sight of food. It is still her way to be full of brightness and gaiety, only with a mirth that is softened like a bit of sunshine caught in a shimmer of rain.

"She listened to the story of Ann patiently, turning her glittering rings on her little wasted hand, and then said, laughing:

"I have no digestion. Ann has no money. Don't you think, Axina, it would be great fun some day to try a kind of chemical experiment, putting Ann's digestion and my money together, so that one of us at least could have a good, hearty meal?"

"I felt hurt to have the story of Ann taken in such a frivolous way, and said, candidly:

"I think, Mrs. Rosewater, whatever you do for Ann's digestion will help your own."

"The next patient I spoke to was Miss Bonnell, who has charge of 'The Pleasant Sunday Box.' This means a collection taken up every week to buy poor old ladies a Sunday dinner. You know, Grandmother Barbara, that physicians now believe they can cure their patients so much quicker by encouraging them first to be unselfish, and so this Pleasant Sunday Box is a remedy for the patients as well as a comfort to the old ladies.

"Miss Bonnell is a business woman taking a much-needed rest from her work. She wrote down Ann's name and address in her notebook in a business-like way, saying, as she did so:

"We will investigate the case, but the ladies cannot undertake to support any one so destitute. Your friend would be much better off in the poorhouse."

"Oh, Miss Bonnell, you would not think so if you knew her. She is a woman of refined, gentle feeling."

"Feelings, my dear," returned Miss Bonnell, coldly, "have nothing whatever to do with it."

"Oh, Grandmother Barbara, why must feeling have nothing to do with it? Why must

the poor suffer until their lives are nearly crushed out of them before the rich can be touched with any pity or tenderness?"

"Here is another letter, Grandmother Barbara, all about Ann.

"First of all, Mrs. Gracie went to see her. I knew Mrs. Gracie would, for she is one of the kindest-hearted women in the world. It was a hot September afternoon when this stout, florid old lady in her white quilled cape and lace mantilla, using her umbrella for a walking-stick, climbed, wheezing and puffing laboriously into Ann's attic chamber. Sinking with a groan into Ann's only rocker she talked about all her ailments ever since she was born until the serene sunshiny little apartment was fairly blue with aches and pains.

"Ann Trisket, who is just as hungry for companionship as for food, drew a low stool near to Mrs. Gracie and listened eagerly to the story, while Mrs. Gracie, pleased with so interested an audience, dilated, expanded and even drew upon her imagination in giving her experiences.

"Ann's attention never flagged.

"Clear out of aches and pains Mrs. Gracie now began upon the news, and talked politics, noted people and incidents of the day.

"A look of rapture settled over Ann's face at this, for no woman was ever more interested in all the doings of the great outside world than this lonely woman. She wants to know

strings of her pink sunbonnet, she asked for a drink of water.

"This made Ann nervous, for she is easily flurried anyway, but she said, courageously:

"I have but one tumbler, an' I am using that for a sugar-bowl. If you'll wait just a minute I'll wash it."

"Certainly, Miss Trisket," replied Mrs. Rosewater, gaily. "I would just as soon drink out of the sugar-bowl as anything."

"She then put Ann at her ease by noticing her pictures and praising the bright colors in her rag carpet, and speaking of the view from her window.

"The coloring of the reflections in that lovely stream, and the dimples in the green fields, make me think of a bit of English scenery," she went on, joyously; "I have not seen so fine a view in all Stubblebin."

"It is a fine view," admitted Ann, exultantly, as if she owned the whole landscape, and forgetting that she could not see so much as a yard's distance.

"Mrs. Rosewater, taking Ann's Bible, afterward read to her the chapter about heaven in Revelations.

"An' her voice was so seraph-like," said Ann, "I almost thought I was there. An' she showed me all her pretty rings that I might realize better about the gold an' the pearls an' the precious stones. Oh, it was a beautiful chapter! I wish you would read it to me once more."

"I opened the Bible and turned to the twenty-first chapter of Revelations.



"SINKING WITH A GROAN INTO ANN'S ONLY ROCKER."

"I SAW A FINE-LOOKING ELDERLY GENTLEMAN AT THE DOOR."

about everything, and has strained her poor eyes over every book and every scrap of newspaper that came in her way, that she might be informed.

"Miss Trisket is not a pauper," I heard Mrs. Gracie say, tersely, to Miss Bonnell. "She is an intelligent woman, and her powers of conversation are something remarkable. She ought not to be allowed to sleep on the floor."

"From that day Mrs. Gracie liked Ann immensely.

"Next, it was Miss Bonnell in her trim bicycle-suit, with note-book in her hand, who called upon Ann to ask what she would like for her Sunday dinner.

"The neighbors have sent in provisions," returned Ann, shrinking back proudly. "I can get along this week."

"I admire Ann's pride, Grandmother Barbara, but I do wish she had one grain of sense with it. I feared her name would at once be scratched from the Pleasant Sunday Box until Miss Bonnell said to me, kindly:

"Miss Trisket is an honest, self-respecting woman, but very proud. It is this class who always suffer."

"A few days later a neat single oak bedstead and large comfortable rocker appeared in Ann's room, with a card bearing the compliments of Mrs. Gracie. The next week no questions were asked, but a generous basket loaded with provisions was sent in for Ann's Sunday dinner.

"Mrs. Rosewater was the next visitor to call upon Ann. Leisurely setting the folds of her pretty challis wrapper, and untying the

"What is the matter, Axina?" Ann said, anxiously, after waiting a little. "Is the type dim?"

"Yes, Ann," I said, when I could swallow something in my throat, "it is very dim. Mrs. Rosewater has pinned a ten-dollar bill on it."

"Goodness and mercy!" was all Ann could say.

"Well, it never rains but it pours, and after that it seemed as if the very gates of heaven were opened to pour down goodness and mercy upon Ann Trisket.

"The ladies quietly made up a purse of forty dollars and bought her a new stove, a new dress, and warm flannels for winter. I am bound to say that Ann was very difficult to please with all her new things, for she clings to old things with an affection that is pathetic.

"The ladies discovered after a while that Ann never liked anything new until she had been acquainted with it for at least a month or two, and they were patient with her whimsies, and said to each other:

"How genuine she is; how deliciously individual; how simple-hearted!"

"Not only are the ladies kind in bringing Ann useful gifts, but they come to read to her and sew for her and talk to her. Some tell her of their special work in life; others amuse her wonderfully with stories of their travels, and some, in an afternoon hour when the sun sends long slanting beams across the quiet room, tell Ann of all their love affairs, for Ann is just quiet and gentle and sympathetic enough to draw out such tender confidences.

"On such days Ann tells them of her own lovers—and there were plenty of them, rich and poor, I have heard you say, Grandmother Barbara.

"I might have been better off than I am now," Ann said, at the conclusion of such a little talk, with a sigh. "But I was proud an' difficult to suit."

"Oh, I know you were difficult to please, Ann," I said, laughing at her, "for it is almost impossible to please you now with a pair of stockings or shoes; what must the difficulties have been with a sweetheart?"

"These are glad days for Ann, and how good things pour in upon her! Last Saturday it was chickens. She was remembered with three fowls, in different styles and sizes, and all sorts of delicacies to go with them.

"What am I to do?" she asked, standing before the row of brown-paper parcels on the table in blissful bewilderment.

"Have a party and invite your neighbors," I proposed.

"Yes, I ought to invite Mis' Puffet and Mis' Windy," said Ann, seriously. "Do you know, Mis' Puffet has got rheumatiz in both legs from running up an' down to that closet tryin' to find out what the ladies all come for, an' Mis' Windy has been havin' a hard spell of neuralgia just from not knowin' what the grocer-boy brings in all the paper bags an' parcels he leaves at my door. Yes, I am obligated to give a party an' invite 'em both in, Axina. They've named this the audience-chamber." At this we both laughed.

"I hardly know Ann these days, such roses have come into her cheeks, and she is so full of life and fun. I believe she feels like a princess in a fairy tale when she wakes up in the morning and wonders what fine thing is going to happen next.

"Right after the fowls a basket heaped full of all kinds of cake was sent in from a surprise party.

"This happened so beautiful," Ann told me afterward, "on the very day I had invited Mis' Puffet and Mis' Windy to dinner, an' while we were sittin' at the table there came the most awful racket at the back door you ever heard. We all scrambled down-stairs, thinkin' the woodshed-chamber was falling down, an' there in the yard was the biggest load of kindlin' you ever see. It took the three of us all afternoon to get it in. I never was so glad," continued Ann, with dimples coming into her cheeks, "I never did have kindlin' enough before, an' now I can divide with Mis' Puffet."

"It was one Monday morning that Mrs. Rosewater ran in unexpectedly to see Ann, and found her bed unmade, the campbottle out of sight, and the fat strawberry cushion standing on its head on the floor.

"What is the matter?" asked Mrs. Rosewater, in wonderment, for Ann always kept her room so neat and orderly.

"I'm just belated with my work," returned Ann, dejectedly, "that's all."

"Miss Trisket," said Mrs. Rosewater, with a silvery little laugh as a preface, "how would you like a water-pail?"

"What made you think of that?" asked Ann, in amazement.

"Oh, it came to me in the visions of the night."

"That is strange you should have come to ask me about a water-pail just now. I have one, but it's been leaking so bad all morning I've been nigh distracted."

"It rained water-pails on Ann after that for a week, and then she was snowed in with comfortables. After that it was little rolls and pats of butter, and baskets of eggs. All the while Ann did not have a spoonful of sugar in her pantry, and this is little short of tragedy when one wants to make a custard pie for Saturday's baking.

"It is very exciting to be poor, and certainly one does not have the opportunity to suffer from ennui as rich people do, but at the same time it is extremely inconvenient to have a whole boxful of baking-powder in the pantry and not a cupful of flour, or a whole sackful of flour and not a pinch of baking-powder."

"Yes, Grandmother Barbara, I scudded around to see Ann last night. It was pitch dark and raining hard, but I found her sitting by the firelight as cozy and cheerful as could be.

"I'm glad you've come, Axina," she said, lighting a candle, for the ladies have furnished her with enough to last a year. "I want to ask you about that last sack of flour. Did you pay for one or two sacks?"

"Only one, Ann."

"Then Jim must have sent the little sack of buckwheat. He knows I was always fond of it. Yes, Jim must have remembered." Ann spoke with a brightness in her voice I had never heard before. She was so happy in thinking her brother's heart was softened, that he had remembered her just a little.

"Shaking the drops of rain from my cloak and hanging it behind the stove to dry, I drew around a chair and put my feet in the oven which stood so invitingly open. It is a little beauty of a stove, and I could but contrast the comforts of Ann's room, with its shades, pretty sash curtains, fresh oil-cloth and bright, new furniture, with the bare apartment I had visited some months before.

"I have a bit of news for you, Ann," I said presently, noticing that a shining little clock ticked on the shelf, a La France rose leaned from the broken pitcher, and that the dim

candle light touched Ann's face to loveliness. 'It's a bout Jim Trisket's wife.'

"I hope it's nothing bad," said Ann, clasping her hands tightly.

"It's nothing bad, or I wouldn't tell you. She is a fine needlewoman, you know."

"Yes; she used to sew with me an' your Gran'mother Barbara. We were friends together when we were girls."

"Well, she was sewing for Mrs. Gracie today, and Mrs. Gracie told her your story, as if she knew nothing about it. It was a hard thing to do, but Mrs. Gracie can do hard things. And sometimes, Mrs. Gracie went on to say, when her neighbors and friends and kin have forgotten her, there has come to her door at dusk of a winter's evening an angel, in the shape of a woman, deeply veiled, who handed Ann a little sum of money which kept her from starving and freezing."

"Turning suddenly and finding her seamstress in tears, Mrs. Gracie brought her stick down heavily on the floor, saying:

"You are the woman!"

"Mrs. Trisket was so startled that she confessed everything. It was a shame, she said, to turn you out, and a curse had followed them ever since. First their child had died, then a flood had carried out the dam, then business had fallen off, but still Jim Trisket would not repent any more than a stone would repent, nor would he let his sister's name be spoken of in his presence. So Mrs. Trisket, gathering her own poor earnings together, had come secretly, in the shadow of twilight, thickly veiled, hoping her charity would never be found out."

"Ann Trisket was silent a long while as the rain came with fresh fury, beating on the attic roof and rattling against the window."

"It is just like Sarah Trisket," she said at length, with a sigh, as if she had been living her life over. 'Sarah always was a good woman.'"

"Oh, Grandmother Barbara, I am so sorry to write you this black letter, but you will want to know about Ann. Her miserable pride has once more brought her to utter wretchedness."

"I knew I would have to tell her the bad news, for no one else dared do it, but the very thought of it made me faint and tremble in my knees."

"I went first to the baker's and bought Ann a herry pie; if she has a weakness for anything it is for pie. Then I went to the tin-shop and bought a handsome dipper which I knew she was in need of, and strengthened with these articles of virtue I dragged myself up those back stairs to Ann's door."

"Ann was pleased and happy as a child to see me, for she is really like a child in her simple, affectionate nature. Mrs. Goodell had been giving her a scrap of bright-flowered Brussels carpet, which Ann had bound and made over into a rug. As she sat complacently in her little old rocker, with her feet on this rug, Ann felt as proud as if her whole room had been carpeted in handsome Brussels instead of rags."

"The baker's wife made this pie herself, and she warranted it not to have any tacks in it, which is a pity, Ann, when you are so fond of shingle-nails," and so I rattled on, trying to laugh all the time so as to keep from crying."

"Mrs. Gracie sent me these stockings after she went away," said Ann, bringing out two pairs of a delicate dove-color. 'I haven't any fault to find with them.'

"You don't mean to say, Ann, you haven't any fault to find?" I exclaimed, in surprise, for Ann had firmly refused all the black stockings offered her, and declined red and blue, and the shops in town had been ransacked in vain to find a shade of slate-color which would suit her fancy."

"Why, Ann, these are fine enough to be married in."

"Yes," said Ann, laughing, 'and they are imported from Germany. Wasn't it good of her? An' here is some shoes Miss Bonnell brought me. They didn't have any in the Stubblebin stores that fitted me, anyway, so they sent to New York. I think now they're half a size too large. Won't you read the number on the soles, Axina?"

"I took the shoes in my hand and examined them; they were of the softest kid and broad and easy, as an old lady's shoes should be, but Ann is so ridiculously proud of her little foot."

"Did you thank Miss Bonnell properly, Ann?" I asked, after satisfying her that the number was all right."

"No, Axina. When I thought of all their goodness to me such a queer feelin' came in my throat I couldn't say one word."

"Ann, let us say the twenty-third Psalm together."

"Startled by my abruptness, Ann began meekly with the beautiful words of trust:

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."

"How the words cut into my heart! I stumbled over them and confused Ann, until finally she had to bring out her Bible before we could go on properly."

"At the last word there came a terrible rap at the door, which made my heart almost stop beating."

"A boy just left this at my step," said Mrs. Windy, handing in a very large parcel marked for Mrs. Trisket."

"Ann took the bundle and put it down indifferently, with the air of a woman who had been out in her carriage all morning shopping,

and expects just such packages to come pouring in. Mrs. Windy, consumed with curiosity, lingered at the door, inquiring for my health, for Ann's health, after the health of the neighbors in general, but Ann never so much as glanced at the mysterious package until the door was firmly closed behind her curious neighbor, then she caught it up gleefully, with trembling hands unloosed the cord, and in rapture spread open the wrappings."

"I knew it! I knew it!" she cried, joyfully. 'It's the counterpane Mrs. Rosewater promised to send me.'

"All excitement, Ann now turned her little rocker so that the best possible light might fall over her shoulder, and spreading the folds of the counterpane over her lap tried vainly with her poor, dim eyes to make out the pattern."

"Would you call it a shell pattern, Axina?" she asked, anxiously."

"I think it is more of a honeycomb, Ann."

"To be sure it's honeycomb. An' is there a figure in the center, Axina?"

"Yes; a beautiful pattern of wild flowers and sheaves of wheat."

"Now, I am proud," said Ann, and the whole room seemed full of sunshine as she passed her fingers with a fluttering caress over the raised pattern. 'I've always wanted a counterpane, an' never had one till now. What will Mis' Puffet say?"

"Every moment Ann went on in this joyful, light-hearted way I grew more miserable, and I feared lest the talk before me should become intolerable."

"Ann," I said, abruptly, even sharply, 'I must talk with you about some business affairs. You know that Mrs. Rosewater left us this morning; that all of your old friends have gone away from the Sanatorium, and new patients have come.'

"Why did you let the old ones go," queried Ann, dreamily, 'an' take in a new set you didn't know anything about?"

"They would get well, Ann."

"Have you had a lamb look you innocently in the face when you knew that the next moment you intended to plunge a knife into its heart, then you will know how I felt as I went on."

"Not one of the new patients is willing to take Miss Bonnell's place, Ann. They say that Stubblebin can take care of its own poor. The Pleasant Sunday work is to be dropped."

"I shall miss the ladies coming in to see me," said Ann, with a sigh."

"Not only will the ladies stop coming, but the provisions and money and clothing, too. I am so sorry, Ann, for I fear that I will not be here much longer. I have resigned my place as head nurse."

"Oh, Axina!"

"Your friends and neighbors will be good to you, Ann, but you know how it is, their help is spasmodic, sometimes they remember, and sometimes they forget. I cannot leave you this way to come down to salt and potatoes again, and I have been talking it all over with Mrs. Goodell to see what can be done. She says the town is perfectly willing to give you a little sum every week, enough to make you comfortable, if you will only let us ask it."

"I know the poor-master," said Ann, huskily; 'he is not the kind of a man I could ask for help.'

"Don't let your foolish pride stand in the way, Ann. You need the help, and your townspeople are willing to give it to you."

"And you want to put me on the town," moaned Ann, hiding her face in her hands. 'I would rather die. Oh, it is such a disgrace to be poor!'

"It is not a disgrace to be poor, Ann. There is but one disgrace in the world, and that is the disgrace of wrong-doing. Our Savior was poor. He had not a place to put his head. We are all poor in different ways; if not in money, in health, or courage, or love. Only our Father in heaven knows how poor and needy we are, how much we need help every day. I must go in a moment, Ann. Will you let us ask for help?"

"Not till I am more in need than I am now," returned Ann, stubbornly, her face ashen-white."

"I saw that I must press my arguments further and cut deeper. Oh, the cruelty of it! But Ann yielded at last, gently, submissively, without shedding one tear."

"I went away quite joyfully, feeling that Ann Trisket's pride had at length given way, that her support was sure. We will call upon the poor-master to-morrow."

"My dear Grandmother Barbara, I did not know Ann Trisket yesterday, when I wrote that her pride had yielded."

"This morning I had half a day's holiday, and I flew around there before the dew was off the mourning-brides and blue love-in-a-mist that grow in Mother Puffet's border."

"Ann Trisket!" I cried in surprise, as I opened the door, for she was apparently dressed to go on the street, almost an unheard-of thing for Ann. She wore one of Mrs. Rosewater's gowns, a print of delicate blue, like the love-in-a-mist in the garden. The deep embroidery-collar you remember about was pinned at her throat, and her hat was a broad, black straw trimmed with quaint old-fashioned lace and faded pink roses. I knew it must be some relic of her girlish finery, but with her smooth, silvery hair, lovely dark eyes and jasmine complexion Ann looked

like a picture. I threw my arms around her neck and kissed her. I could not help it."

"Where are you going so early, Ann?" I asked, seeing that she had some weighty errand on her mind."

"I was going to ask you an' Mis' Goodell not to put me on the town. I have a little money in the bank, and I have figured it all out, by living on fifty cents a week it will last me several years. By the time it's gone," Ann went on, with a heart-breaking sob, 'the Lord may take me to his own city of gold an' precious stones an' pearls, where we shall never be poor any more.'

"Ann," I said, smoothing her cheek caressingly, for I saw how useless it was to argue with her, 'you shall have your own way.'

"An' you will not put me on the town?"

"Never, without your permission. Do you happen to know a man by the name of James Carberry, Ann?" I asked, changing the subject abruptly."

"I never heard of such a man," returned Ann, simply, 'but you know I go out so little, an' I never know the news unless somebody tells me.'

"I will tell you the news, then, Ann," I said, laughing, and taking both of her hands in my own. 'James Carberry is the man folks say I ought to marry; and he sent you this, dear,' I added, crushing a little roll of bills into her palm."

"At this moment we were interrupted by Mrs. Windy's shrill voice below."

"You want to see Miss Trisket? Go right up the back stairs. It's the right-hand door."

"Ann stiffened rigidly, as she always did at the approach of a stranger, but when I turned and saw a fine-looking elderly gentleman at the door, I said politely:

"Will you come in?"

"Miss Trisket," said the stranger, bowing courteously to Ann."

"Ann inclined her head proudly."

"Perhaps you don't remember the brown satin vests you made for me some forty years ago, Miss Trisket. I have never been able to find any other that suited me quite so well, and I have come back a long way, from beyond the Rocky mountains, in fact, to see if you would make me some more."

"The color and gladness rushed into Ann's

face until she was as beautiful as the girl Joe Highleman used to know so many years ago. But she only said:

"You don't know that I am blind, Joe?" stretching out her hands pitifully toward him. I slipped quietly out of the room, but not until I heard Joe saying, tenderly:

"I love you a thousand times more. And what if I have come back to you poor, Ann?"

"I am rich in having you, Joe, just you." Ann's voice quivered with joy, and I knew she was sheltered in Joe's strong arms as a bird is sheltered in its nest."

"Ann sends this netted purse back for your birthday, with her love and best wishes, Grandmother Barbara. This time, as you see, it is lined with thick pieces of gold. They tell the most fabulous stories of Joe Highleman's wealth, of the jewels he lavishes upon Ann, of his share in a gold-mine, and Mrs. Puffet and Mrs. Windy declare that all the neighbors believe his income is not less than seventy thousand a year."

"After a very quiet wedding Mr. and Mrs. Highleman spent several months in the city, where Ann was under the care of a specialist until her sight was fully restored."

"On their return to Stubblebin a handsome carriage with coachman and high-stepping horses waited to carry them to their new home, and you can imagine Ann's perfect surprise when it proved to be the old Turnbull place, for she did not know they had moved away. The gardens, grounds and greenhouses are the finest in all the country round, and the house refitted and refurnished with a substantial comfort, which is like Joe Highleman. Ann said for days it seemed as if they were living in a dream, and she was almost afraid to touch things lest they should melt away from her."

"Perhaps I wrote before that Jim Trisket is very poorly. He would have made an assignment by this time if Ann had not helped him. She and Sarah had a good cry together when they met for the first time, but the neighbors all say that Ann is so good to them."

"You will think that I am romancing when I tell you that Mr. Highleman gave James Carberry a check for one thousand dollars in return for the little handful of bills I stuffed into Ann's hand that morning."

The First Thanksgiving Dinner



November, 1621, at Plymouth, Massachusetts,—a full description of this interesting event. First oysters eaten by white men.

See the November Number of

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"This is a trust loan to the Lord, Axina," James had said to me when he gave me all the money he had with him, but we never dreamed of its coming back like this.

"Mrs. Highleman has picked out a sightly lot, and she is going to build a house on it just to my mind for a wedding present.

"An' I want to give you the first bag of flour, Axina," she said, with that look of tenderness which always comes into her eyes when she speaks of the past.

"When James and I are married you are to come and live with us, dear Grandmother Barbara, as long as you please. Oh, you needn't say no. Daniel can come, too, and we have it all planned out. You are to dine with Mrs. Highleman very often, and drive out with her in her fine carriage, and you will be sure, she says, to take the old road through the edge of the wood where the wild strawberries used to grow, and talk over all the good times you have had together tailoring.

"Marjorie Goodell came for me to take tea with them last night. You know that since Mrs. Goodell died Mrs. Highleman has adopted Marjorie as her own daughter, and does everything for her.

"I was dazzled with all the glitter of crystal and gold and china, but Ann was just as simple-hearted and childlike as ever. She wore a gray gown of some rich, soft material, with a white rose in her hair, for Joe always likes to have her wear flowers, and I could not see that she was changed at all.

"After tea she showed me all over her beautiful house, and when she called my attention to any rich or lovely ornament it was with the same air of joyful glee with which she used to show me any new things the Cure ladies had given her.

"At last she insisted that I should go with her to an attic room she calls her Chamber of Peace, and here I found all of the old furniture she used to have in her room at Mrs. Puffet's, the rag carpet and cherry stand and camphor-bottle and strawberry pincushion; even the prints that used to be on the wall, all were here.

"Whenever I find myself growing difficult to please, Axina, I come to this room and read my Bible, and remember that I once knew what it was to be very poor."

"Then she showed me a Pleasant Sunday Box from which Mrs. Puffet, Mrs. Windy and many more old ladies in straitened circumstances have Sunday dinners and gifts of clothes and fuel and money sent to them.

"Are you not proud, Ann," I asked, "of all the good you can do?"

"Axina," she said, turning to me with warm tears in her eyes, "I cannot be proud any more. The Lord has broken my heart with goodness. I mean to walk humbly and softly before him all the days of my life."

HOSPITAL FOR SICK PLANTS.

A hospital under the care of Prof. B. T. Galloway, chief of the division of vegetable pathology, has been established by the Department of Agriculture of the United States government for the treatment of sick plants. Diseases affecting plants and vegetables, as well as remedies, are investigated. The work will not only benefit farmers, but all lovers of flowers. A violet-plant was placed under a glass jar, where it was provided with only poor ventilation. Germs of a disease known to be injurious to this plant were mixed with water and sprayed upon it. Soon large yellow spots appeared upon the leaves. After the jar was removed, the patient rapidly recovered, showing that the germs would have had no effect had the air in which the plant grew been fresh. The plants in a row of young corn are given water in different quantities, mixed with certain proportions of salts, as found in natural soil. When certain strengths of salt are added, the little months of the hairlike tubes of the roots, through which the plants drink, become so badly puckered that the plants starve. Plants growing in salt-marshes and by the seaside are supplied with larger mouths. By testing the amount of salt in his soil, the farmer can ascertain how healthy his corn is likely to be. Professor Galloway is awaiting results from some very interesting experiments with the germs of wheat-rust.

HAVE YOU ASTHMA OR HAY-FEVER?

Medical science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma and Hay-fever in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanical discovery found on the Congo River, West Africa. Its cures are really marvelous. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, W. Va., writes that it cured him of Asthma of thirty years' standing, and Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, testifies that for three years he had to sleep propped up in a chair in Hay-fever season, being unable to lie down night or day. The Kola Plant cured him at once. Mr. Alfred C. Lewis, editor of the *Farmer's Magazine*, was also cured when he could not lie down for fear of choking, being always worse in Hay-fever season. Others give similar testimony, proving it truly a wonderful remedy. If you suffer from Asthma or Hay-fever you should send your address to the Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, who to prove its power will send a Large Case by mail free to all who need it. All they ask in return is that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. It costs you nothing and you should surely try it.



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Our Household.

WHY IS THE WORLD SO SAD?

"Why is the king so sad, father, why is the king so sad?"

More than his sire the king is blessed;
The times are fair and the land at rest.
With the little prince on the queen's fair breast,

Why is the king so sad?"

He put the woman he loved aside;
He stealed his heart when his true love cried,
And took a princess to be his bride,
And so the king is sad.

"Why is the rich man sad, father, why is the rich man sad?"

Fair on the hills his turrets glow;
Broad is the manor spread below;
Garners and wine-vats overflow.

Now, why is he so sad?"

His truth for a lordly price he sold;
He gave his honor for yellow gold;
It's oh for the peace he knew of old,
And therefore he is sad.

"Why is the poor man sad, father, why is the poor man sad?"

Health and freedom and love has he,
A vine-clad cottage beyond the lea,
Where children clamber about his knee.

Yet why is he so sad?"

He thought of the rich man's wealth and fame;

He looked on his humble lot with shame;
Into his life black envy came,
And therefore he is sad.

"Why is the priest so sad, father, why is the priest so sad?"

Little he knows of worldly care;
His place is found in the house of prayer,
And honor and peace attend him there.

Why is the priest so sad?"

He marks how the proud ones spoil the meek;
His heart is hot, but his spirit weak,
And the words that he would he dare not speak,
And so the priest is sad.

"Why is the world so sad, father, why is the whole world sad?"

Every day is a glory sent,
Sunshine, beauty and music blent,
Fresh from the gracious firmament.

Then why is the world so sad?"

Alas for the evil ever done!
Alas for the good deed not begun!
Alas for our blindness every one!

By this the world is sad.

—Robert Clarkson Tongue.

HOME TOPICS.

BUTTERCUP OXALIS.—It brightens up a home so, when the wintry days come, to have a few blooming plants in the window. If you have only a few plants be sure and have a buttercup oxalis among them. It is a strong, luxuriant grower, blooms continuously for many weeks, and one bulb, costing only three or four cents, will fill a six or eight inch pot and has been known to produce over a thousand of the bright yellow blossoms. If the bulbs are planted now in good rich soil, and kept in a sunny window after they come up, they will begin to bloom in January, and continue all winter. As soon as the buds start it is well to give the plants a little weak liquid manure once a week. A friend of mine kept one on a bracket by a south window in her hall all last winter, and at one time it had twenty-five blossoms. The house was heated by a furnace, so the hall was warm. The plant does not do as well in a very warm room, and it likes plenty of moisture.

OVER-CLEANLINESS.—We all like to see things look clean and orderly, but I do

so fixed that a finger-mark, a fly-speck or a little dust will make one positively unhappy. Such a woman does not make a home. A friend who believes that life is more than meat and the body more than raiment, and whose highest ambition is to make a happy home for her husband and four little children, told me that her husband said the only home he knew as a boy was his father's office. His mother was one of these immaculate housekeepers who sacrifice everything else for cleanliness. Her little boy was dressed, and tied in his chair to keep him clean. As he grew older he could never have his toys about like other children, he must always come into the house through the woodshed, and leave his shoes there for fear of bringing in a speck of dirt; so it came to be a habit with him to go to his father's office and stay all the time he was not in school, merely going home to eat and sleep. He and his father became great chums. At the office he had his toys and books. Here he could whittle and make all the litter he wanted to without fear of reproof. This is not a pleasant memory of home and mother for a son to carry in his mind all through his life. There is a limit to any woman's time and strength, and she must choose what things she will leave out. Whether she will be merely a housekeeper and make everything else subservient to the idea of cleanliness and order, or whether it is not better to keep her house clean enough for health and comfort and have time to cultivate some of the amenities of home; time to be the best friend and companion of husband and children. MAIDA McL.

A MODERN CUPBOARD.

A small dining-room is a great nuisance, as many people besides myself have found out. To attempt to crowd large pieces of

it could be made without running it nearer the ceiling. As to its beauty, tastes of course will differ. I will say, however, that it is one of the beauties to which a photograph never does full justice, for the blending of the soft-wood tints with the dainty colors of the china, and glitter of cut-glass against the lining of pale green silk, is one of the cupboard's great charms, and as yet the art of Daguerre is not successful in portraying color.

As the picture shows, a chimney-flue projects into the room, leaving a space at one side of it six feet long and twelve inches deep. This was not deep enough, so the carpenter had one layer of brick taken out up to the height of the cupboard—eight feet—which gave a depth of sixteen inches to start with, and when finished left the front of the cupboard flush with the flue, thus giving me good, deep shelves, yet not taking one inch of the much-needed floor-space.

The little cabinet shelves to the right of the chimney are about eight inches deep, and are to be devoted to tea-pots just as fast as I acquire them.

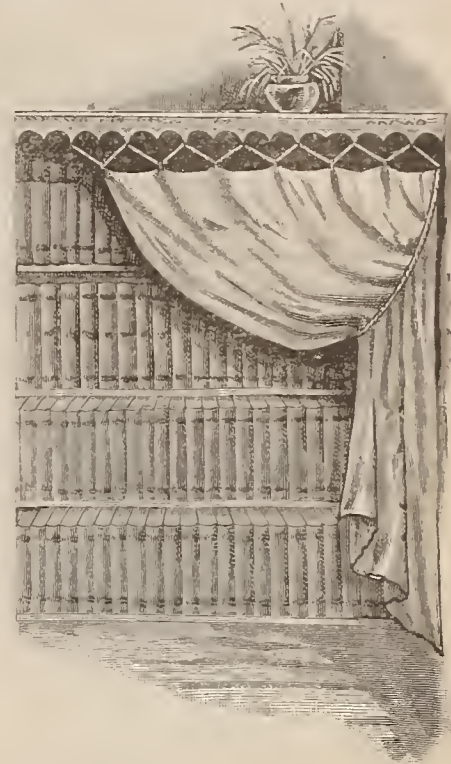
Below the glass doors the space, as you see, is divided into six drawers for table-linen, and knives and forks. To the left of the drawers are two little cupboards, the middle one with the glass door for silver and the other for viands. Above the top row of drawers are two sliding shelves, one over the two little doors and a shorter one over the row of drawers. These shelves are very convenient when serving a meal or when getting dishes in or out of the cupboard.

The front of the chimney is paneled up to the lower shelf, over which a mirror was set; over the mirror another shelf, and over that a terra-cotta panel brought from Denmark. The soft browns and cream color in this panel blend as perfectly with the wood

SAFETY-PIN CASES.

Materials: One ball of knitting-silk, one yard satin baby ribbon, one bunch bonnet-wire, three flannel leaves pointed with scissors or pinked.

One bunch of wire makes two. Crochet single stitch the whole length of the wire; retrace, and make a double mitten-stitch



on either side. Bend in a disk, and whip together till the desired size, fasten in the flannels and add bows.

This is a dainty contribution to a baby's basket.

A PRETTY DRAPERY.

We have tried all sorts of ways with the silk curtains on our book-shelves, and like very much the one we illustrate, where the lacing introduces a pretty effect. This could also be utilized upon grillework in divers ways.

MONEY-MAKING AT HOME.

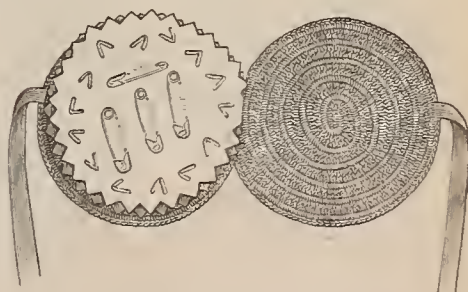
Embroidered centerpieces and doilies do not seem to have lost any of their prestige.

Many girls embroider well, and just now I know of one who has taken orders for six dozen little finger-bowl doilies. She puts a very simple pattern upon them, and is earning some money to use in other ways at Christmas.

Three other women are in collusion with a caterer. He sends to one of the women great numbers of small pressed-paper boxes without covers. The woman upon receiving them gives them out to two women, who glue a double ruffle of crape-paper—some blue, some yellow, pink and all colors—round the top or upper edge. They are sent back to the woman first receiving them, who gilds each just at the upper edge of the white box, and they are ready to be sent to the caterer for bonbon-boxes or for creams or uses at teas and receptions.

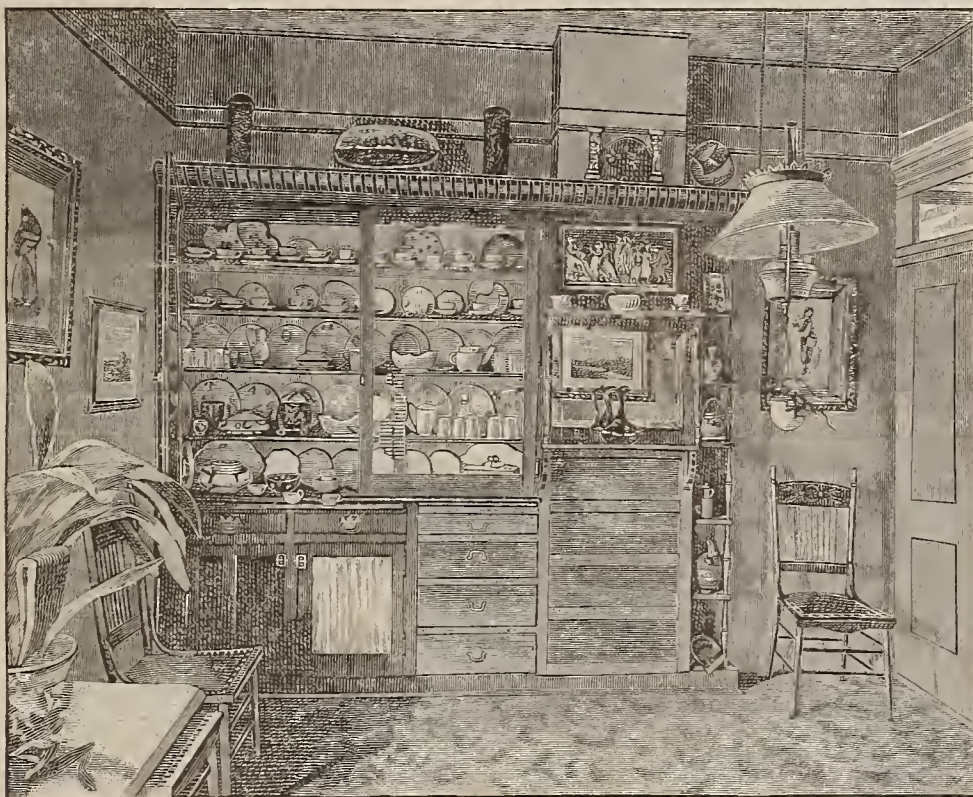
One of the women working upon the boxes does her own housework, and is a scrupulously neat housekeeper; also has two children to look after. She can put the ruffles upon two hundred in a day, for which she receives thirty-five cents a hundred, making seventy cents a day.

Last year a philanthropic woman who is full of helpful ideas for other women was journeying among the mountain-women in Kentucky. She found one woman specially anxious to make some money,



but who thought she had no faculty. The traveler saw a neat sunbouquet on Kezia, and found that she made the bonnet, so she advised Kezia to make bonnets for sale, and told her she would try and send her orders for a start.

This year many women who summer on the Cape Cod coast were wearing the sun-bonnets made by Kezia, and she has received many half dollars in payment for her sewing. Her orders have gone gener-



furniture, such as sideboard and china-cupboard, into a space already limited only intensifies the aggravation.

Our house was set too near the edge of the lot to permit of building on an extension, yet something must be done to make room, or rather economize the space we already had.

My collection of china had long outgrown the old corner cupboard, and my precious cups, plates and pitchers were in almost hourly danger of breakage from the crowded condition of the shelves.

I was invited either to provide a larger place in which to keep it or cease buying china. With each importation of china growing prettier, the latter alternative was not to be thought of for a minute, and I at once put my wits to work to devise a cupboard which would be ample, convenient and handsome, and would at the same time leave the floor-space clear of all furniture save dining-table, chairs and side-table.

The cut accompanying this article will give you a very good idea of the cupboard I planned and had built. The cut was made from a photograph taken soon after the cupboard was finished and before the dishes received their final arrangement. The dining-room has an eastern exposure, and it was very difficult to get a proper light on the cupboard the morning this photograph was taken.

That this cupboard is convenient we who make use of it can testify. It is as large as

and general scheme of the cupboard as though the artist might have had that particular spot in his mind when he modeled and colored it.

The cupboard is built of quartered oak and plate-glass, and lined with silk. Silk makes much more satisfactory lining than velvet, as the latter darkens with exposure to the air.

This cupboard gives me far more room than any ordinary cupboard and sideboard combined, and I do not believe it cost any more than those two articles would do if made of the same material as the cupboard.

The carpenter who built this cupboard assures me it can be moved, but not often; therefore, I cannot recommend it to people who move frequently.

Our dining-room seems as large again, and oh, the joy of having no heavy furniture to move when cleaning house! And getting down on hands and knees with broom and brush is a form of fetish worship of which I am not fond.

When house-cleaning time comes the cupboard can be cleaned a week in advance, if necessary, and the dining-room that was once our bugbear has become the easiest room of them all. JESSIE M. GOOD.

My little girl, Julia, was taken with a cough, and prostrated with fever. I began administering Jayne's Expectorant, which gave relief and eventually cured her.—(Mrs.) E. N. WALLERIUS, Vermillion, Minn., Nov. 13, 1895.

The best Family Pill—Jayne's Painless Sanative.



not believe in sacrificing health, comfort and happiness to this one idea. Of course, I would have immaculate cleanliness about cooking and serving meals, but what I mean is that it is not well to give one's life service to sweeping and dusting, scrubbing and scouring, until the habit becomes

ally by sixes, so she feels it worth while to fill them quickly. There are many ways of wage-earning at home, but there are also many ways of money-saving at home.

Mrs. Jones has just purchased a pattern skirt for a petticoat. She could ill afford it. She has plenty of dress-skirts of good material, but too narrow for dresses now. She could have ripped and washed and made up a pretty skirt, with no expense but her time; and many women have much more time than money. Surely any woman who has had a divided skirt for stormy weather will never be a winter without one. They can be made and lined, made up from some material in the house, and they will not drabble as common wide skirts will. With many it is only in some small ways that economy can be practised. But make it a rule, whether married or single, to save something. Save, if it is only a dollar a month or a penny a day, and see how it will help to success. So a little sermon has grown out of the making of a petticoat from some discarded dress-skirt.

MARY JOSLYN SMITH.

THANKSGIVING ON THE FARM.

If, to present the entire home in immaculate order, and the table proverbially "groaning" under its weight of elegancies, we as house-keepers must strain nerves and temper until unendurable to self and all about us, let us forego the very doubtful pleasure this year of "entertaining." For in every sense of the word is such a Thanksgiving a delusion, decidedly.

But it is not in the least a necessity that strength shall go down in the wake of a foolish pride, and that guests shall depart with a feeling of having left a discouraged and overworked hostess contemplating a flight into the wilderness to escape further afflictions of the kind. The day may be so filled with real joys and thanksgivings that, though their entertainment were of the simplest kind, they have only pleasant memories to carry home in the evening and a wish for a great many returns of just such a day. Even the hostess may be in so amiable a humor at retiring-time, if she has been sensible and truly entertaining in a simple, unaffected way, that she is nothing loath to repeat her invitations with the coming of the following national November holiday.

It is indeed the old-fashioned, true-hearted hospitality and viand-serving that is most appreciated almost, if not quite, the old world through. Style, glitter, display and many "courses" are not more enjoyed than the simple dinner in the unpretentious farm home. And it is in reality, if we will but stop to remember, in the rudest of hut farm homes that Thanksgiving originated, in the dense and mighty woods of New England. It were

lean day, and it is in commemoration of the beginning of our first American colony that the day is held sacred; and as a national holiday, when it is supposed that all shall care to commemorate anew from a heart full of thanksgiving for the many things that, even in times of sorrow or misfortune, one has yet to be really thankful for.

When on the farm we attempt to follow out the plan of Thanksgiving—entertaining of some wealthy relative or friend of the city—we just that surely spoil it all for city, village or farmer folk guests. There is nothing that can compare with real farm hospitality in its unaffected simplicity and genuineness. The happiest remissions of the year are those of country homes.

There was a time, it is said, when Thanksgiving was observed throughout with the strictness and gloominess of the old puritanical Sabbath. It was the business of the day to be strictly thankful, and the



feasting and "good times" of the present were not so important a part of the coming of this holiday as now. We are told that Abraham Lincoln revived the true spirit of the day, making it instead a day of praise and pleasures combined. Perhaps in many instances the observance of the day has as far fallen short of its origin in purpose as on the side of feasting and pleasures. People forget, or at least fail to return thanks for the abundance in stores and health, and for the unbroken family circles that meet, many, many times. We are all too apt to take the blessings that shower about us as a matter of fact and our "rights," while strenuously objecting to anything of an adverse or disappointing nature. As a people we are so constituted that we forget to be thankful for small favors, and look beyond them. But we trust that we are turning the new leaf this



EMBROIDERED BULGARIAN DOILIES.

well for us all did we stop to think of this wonderful history of a people of long ago, who, through the privations they bore for a just and grand cause, made it possible for you and I to live here as we do, in peace and comfort, and in a manner that should tend to make us more grateful and thankful than we usually are for the blessings that are ours. To America belongs Thanksgiving day, it is a purely Amer-

ican day, and it is in commemoration of the beginning of our first American colony that the day is held sacred; and as a national holiday, when it is supposed that all shall care to commemorate anew from a heart full of thanksgiving for the many things that, even in times of sorrow or misfortune, one has yet to be really thankful for.

"Times" have certainly changed for the better. The husbandman has received his reward for faithful service in overflowing granary cribs and bins, and the housewife's winter supplies of fruits and stores attest the abundance from which she

IVORY SOAP

99⁴⁴/₁₀₀ PER CENT PURE

In some of the best hospitals and sanitariums no other soap is allowed for any purpose.

gathered and garnered, and her table will absolutely "groan" underneath its weight of home-prepared viands this year, and farm homes all over the land will resound with good cheer and great hope. Prices offered the producer for the products of his land and his toil are better, and the outlook more generally hopeful. If under past depression people have declared they had nothing to be thankful for, they will feel a sense of shame and repentance, and make amends by being devoutly thankful, and thankful as never before this year. If city relatives are to come to the farm to celebrate the day, extend them hospitality and plenty, but entertain them in simplicity, not give them the impression that you feel, because of their different way of living, you are in fear that they will not feel themselves well entertained. More often are farmerfolk envied than envied. And in well-to-do circles farmers are to be envied. The privileges and independence of these well-to-do farmers make their lives a pleasure indeed, and numbers without end of city and village people would exchange places if they could.

A Thanksgiving day on a farm has been called by one of the bards of olden times "a pious day of pie;" and in many families it is the custom to serve pie in every imaginable form and kind. We do not imagine that the pilgrims of this New World who instituted the Thanksgiving day prepared or ate largely of pie—in the earlier years of their sojourning at least. But we have departed from the manner of living of those olden times to a very great degree, and Thanksgiving of the present day is never devoid of "pie." Oyster pies and meat pies, chicken pies and pot-pies, are among the toothsome dainties served, while pumpkin pies and fruit pies are planned and furnished galore. Add to our wonderful pies, then, the other available delicacies of plentiful stores, with peace and prosperity in close lead, we have a worldful of blessings for which to lift our voices in tones of truest thanksgiving.

ELLA HOUGHTON.

CROCHETED TUMBLER-DOILIES.

Cut the circles of linen the size of the tumblers, turn a narrow rolled hem around the edge, then crochet edging right into the hem. The pretty double knot-stitch makes a pretty edge. Draw up a long stitch, then crochet a short stitch into the loose under thread, make another the same way, and fasten with mitten-stitch into the hem. Set the stitches in the hem very close so the border will not cnp. As you come around each time fasten into the two stitches of the knot. Crochet all loosely, as it looks much better. REX.

KNITTED POINT-LACE.

ABBREVIATIONS USED.—O, over; n, narrow; k, knit. Use No. 50 or No. 60 Glasgow twilled lace-thread. Cast on 35 stitches, knit across plain.

First row—K 4, o and n 15 times, o, k 1. Second, fourth, sixth, eighth, tenth, twelfth, fourteenth, sixteenth, eighteenth and twentieth rows—plain.

Third row—K 7, o and n 14 times, o, k 1. Fifth row—K 10, o and n 13 times, o, k 1. Seventh row—K 13, o and n 12 times, o, k 1.

Ninth row—K 16, o and n 11 times, o, k 1. Eleventh row—K 19, o and n 10 times, o, k 1.

Thirteenth row—K 22, o and n 9 times, o, k 1.

Fifteenth row—K 25, o and n 8 times, o, k 1.

Seventeenth row—K 28, o and n 7 times, o, k 1.

Nineteenth row—K 31, o and n 6 times, o, k 1.

Twenty-first row—Plain.

Twenty-second row—Cast off 10, k rest plain.

You will now have 35 stitches left. Knit next row plain, then repeat from the first row. This pretty lace is easily and quickly made, and is suitable for trimming various articles. MRS. J. R. MACKINTOSH.

Winter is Coming

but you can now ride a Columbia in winter. Snow and ice don't affect Columbia bicycles any more than dust and rain do. What is more, you can depend on the safety of

COLUMBIAS

at any time. If you are not a Columbia rider, don't let the fall season go by without being one. Commence now and keep in good condition all winter.

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BRUSH

14 inches long

Our Household.

I NEVER KNEW I HAD A HEART.

BY OWEN MAUPAY.

I never knew I had a heart
Till my love went away.
I never knew the sky could be
So leaden dull and gray.
The hours drag on with leaden feet,
While waiting for a sight
Of her dear face. Until we meet
I walk in darkest night.
Poor heart of mine! Thou canst but break—
Poor weary eyes! Grown dim with tears—
In nothing can I comfort take
When hours are days and days are years.

Why must our life at last in closing
Have sorrows that are down so deep?
Till life seems but a dreamy dozing
Just as we sink away to sleep.
If we could steel our hearts from loving,
If every day were just complete
Within itself, our thoughts ne'er roving,
Then life with grief were not replete.
At last our hearts so torn with striving
Turn to Him whose only love
Is satisfying and abiding,
And takes our souls at last—above.

FRUIT-CAKES.

OFTEN some of our oldest recipes that have been tested repeatedly, and have been laid aside only to be hunted up again after trying later ones, are our very best; for the best is not always new, nor the new always best, as I have found out in trying fruit-cake recipes. There is one in an old, time-stained, dog-eared cook-book, headed "The best fruit-cake in the world," which has never failed me, and is for making the famous "southern black cake," and is served at all southern weddings. The recipe reads thus:

10 eggs,
1 pound of butter,
1 pound of browned flour,
1 pound of browned sugar,
3 pounds of raisins,
3 pounds of currants,
1 pound of citron, sbaved very fine,
1 nutmeg,
1 cupful of wine and brandy, mixed.

Rub the butter and sugar to a cream, beat the eggs separately, and add to the butter and sugar; dredge flour over the fruit, adding it the last thing. Line the pan with thick greased paper, and cover the top with a paste of flour and water to prevent too rapid browning, and bake with a slow, even heat. It is done when a broom-splint comes out clean.

I think I improve this old recipe by adding two heaping teaspoonfuls of good baking-powder to the flour. It takes a long time to bake a loaf fruit-cake, and in these days of hurry we do not often think we can spare an hour for such work, in which case a layer fruit-cake will be found "just the thing," as it is delicious and quickly baked. Bake your cake in layers as for jelly-cake, and instead of jelly between the layers use the following: Make a sufficient quantity of icing to put on the top and bottom of each of your cakes. The quantity of icing to be made must of course be regulated by the size of the cake. The whites of three eggs, with sufficient sugar to make it the right consistency, will be enough for an ordinary sized cake. Season your icing with lemon and brandy. The brandy is used in this case because brandy is always used in loaf fruit-cakes. Have as many different kinds of fruits ready as you wish to use—currants, raisins, citron, blanched almonds, etc. Having everything prepared and the layers baked, ice the first one, set on a flat board, then put on a layer of this fruit, then ice over the bottom of the next layer and lay it on this; ice over the top of this last, and sprinkle your fruit over and proceed as with the first until your cakes are all used up; put icing over the whole. After trimming around the edges smoothly set away for a few days before cutting.

A German raised fruit-cake, besides being very nice and easily made, is always satisfactory from the fact that the fruit never settles to the bottom as is so often the case with other cakes of this kind, and is made thus: To one cupful of bread-sponge, and one cupful of sugar, one tablespoonful of butter and one of lard, two eggs, one half teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves and grated nutmeg, add one cupful each of raisins, currants and shredded citron, and one teaspoonful of soda in enough water to dissolve it; the fruit all seeded and chopped fine. Beat the eggs and stir in the sponge, with the other ingredients. Add flour to make a little

thicker than ordinary cake; let it rise, and bake one hour.

All fruit-cake recipes advise the makers to dredge the fruit with flour to keep it (the fruit) from settling to the bottom. Better advice is to always make the batter for these cakes stiffer than for other cakes, and to stir after the fruit is added just enough to get it well mixed through the cake. The raisins should always be seeded.

MRS. W. L. TABOR.

OUR SMALL MISFORTUNES.

There is one thing that to me always savors of nothing short of cruelty, and that is the way people in general, old as well as young, will tease and torment a little child or a young person about some peculiarity of form or feature, until life is nearly a burden on account of the supposed magnitude of the dreadful "deformity." Suppose a little girl has large eyes, or a rather slim, long neck, instead of waiting for time to round out the face and figure, and change these offending features into marks of beauty, "Bess' eyes like saucers," and neck, which if broken would be "long enough to tie together again," are constantly dinned in poor Bessie's ears, until she can never feel or appear at ease for thinking about those staring eyes, or wondering if her neck does look so very dreadful. Perhaps it is a protruding under lip which attracts the attention of the fault-finders, and "Look out, or you will step on that lip of yours," or "Gather up the slack in that lip or it will fall off," keeps a little girl of my acquaintance in a state of deep dejection; and I have often seen her taking a stealthy survey of her face in the glass, and with tears in her eyes she would say, so sorrowfully, "Oh, I do wish my lip was 'pittier' than it is!" the sorrowful droop exaggerating the slight protrusiveness of a very sweet little mouth. "Never mind that little lip, dear; it is a lovely color, and does not look badly at all," we answer, and a pleasant smile puts the offending lip into a very pretty appearance.

Take the case of a boy whose feet have somehow tried to outdo the rest of his body in growth, and that poor boy's feet are the subject of endless so-called jokes and jests until he shrinks from going anywhere, simply because a few thoughtless persons with more talk than brains have caused him to imagine that wherever he goes the whole world sees and thinks of nothing else but his feet. Often older people are made the butt of these jokes, and while the effect may not be so lasting or as injurious as on younger ones, still it is not conducive to happiness by any means, and any one who will thoughtlessly add a cloud to the brow of an old person deserves a visit from the "whitecaps."

There are people whom we often meet whose first impulse seems to bid them to say something unkind or unpleasant, and as a rule they are avoided as much as possible by all; this in turn only adds more to their natural bitterness of spirit, and sarcastic speeches get to be the rule. How much pleasanter it is to meet those dear friends who always have a kind word and a pleasant smile, and who never seem to see that our "nose is crooked," or that we are "dreadfully tanned," or that those "wrinkles are growing deeper every day," and so we forget our small misfortunes and carry away with us the feeling that Mrs. So-and-so is a very pleasant person indeed. There is no reason why every one should not be loved and esteemed, instead of being thought of with dread. Simply cultivate the habit of saying pleasant things, of being blind to the peculiarities of others, of making unkind remarks, and people will be glad to meet you, and you will be certain of a welcome anywhere.

A. M. MARRIOTT.

SILK-CASES.

A lady who does a great deal of embroidery saves time by having cases for different colors of silk, so she can tell at a glance where to find what she wants—a white linen one for white silks, a gray linen one for other colors, tied with ribbon the color of the silks it contains.

For a white linen one a half yard of linen is required. Turn a hem all around and hemstitch it. Upon this stitch another piece of linen, with places an inch apart, stitched to hold the silks. The silks can be drawn through these places with a bent wire.

You can make one of swiss to be more dainty, and this can contain just the silks with which you are working a particular

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piece that you wish to catch up when you go to spend the afternoon with your dearest friend. One end turned over as a pocket may hold your thimble, needle-case and scissors. It is not necessary to get one's work so soiled, and it takes hard washing to cleanse it, thereby making it very hard upon the silks. Some kinds of fancy work, as tatting and Battenberg lace, should be kept very clean so it will not be necessary to launder it right away.

Daintiness in all her work and belongings is always indicative of a born lady.

BELLE KING.

Is the path lonely? Fear it not, for He Who makes the sparrows fall is guiding thee; And not a star shines o'er thy head by night But he doth know that it will meet thy sight; And not a joy can beautify thy lot But tells thee still that thou art unforgot. Nay, not a grief can darken or surprise, Dwell in thy heart, or dim with tears thine eyes, But it is sent in mercy and in love, To bid thy helplessness seek strength above.

HOW TO REMOVE STAINS FROM LINEN.

Grass stains, thought by so many to be simply unremovable, will readily disappear by the application of cream tartar and water.

If an article be scorched, hang it in the bright sunshine; soon the scorch stain will entirely disappear.

Chlorid of lime and water will remove the most obstinate cases of mildew. Soak the article in four quarts of water in which one tablespoonful of the lime has been dissolved. Rinse thoroughly in three waters. Lemon-juice rubbed on an article but slightly mildewed, then the garment hung in the sun, will be found effective. The chlorid of lime will also remove peach stains.

Pour boiling water through fresh tea or coffee stains.

Many fresh fruit stains will disappear, also, if treated to the boiling-water bath.

Old tea and coffee stains, as well as fresh or old chocolate stains, should be soaked first in cold water, then in boiling.

For those fruit stains which have not yielded to the boiling water, use oxalic acid in the proportion of three ounces of the crystal to one pint of water. Then wet the stain with the solution, and place quickly in the sunshine. Watch carefully, and rinse well as soon as the stain disappears, as the acid may injure the delicate fabric.

To make assurance doubly sure, wet the article in ammonia, then again rinse. Remember to place the article through which boiling water is to be poured over a bowl, and hold the tea-kettle at a height to insure force.

E. B. S.

PILLOWS.

Sleeping-pillows are much changed now from those in use formerly. With the brass bedsteads the bolster is popular, but separate pillows are used to sleep on. On other beds the daytime pillows are purely ornamental, and are removed at night and others substituted.

Hair-pillows are now taking the place of others, and are made in size twenty by thirty inches, the finest ticking being used.

In one very fine house a small pillow, twenty-eight by fourteen inches, is made of hair and pine-needles, the material being of very heavy home-spun linen. It is tacked like a comfort, and then placed on the hair-pillow and tied at the corners and sides. Feathers are being called unhealthy, and some think they damage the hair.

Some have several small pillows and use them to tuck in various places. A soft eider-down one, quite small, is very nice to draw in at the back of the neck. In winter they can be used to keep the drafts from around the neck. Coverings of silk or linen are provided in abundance, and are made with a lap on the under side so they can be readily changed.

REN.

The \$200 Prize

OFFERED FOR THE BEST POEM ON

CEYLON AND INDIA TEA

has been awarded to a lady living in Derby, Conn., concealing her identity under the nom-de-plume of T. Caddy. It will be published and a copy will be sent to each contestant.

Over 5,000 poems were received, many of which were excellent, but the majority of writers lost sight of the strict conditions laid down, and omitted one or more metaphors.

The object was to get a poem which set forth these facts:

- 1.—That Ceylon and India Tea is PURE. A teaspoonful was mentioned, as that quantity is enough for an ordinary tea-pot.
- 2.—That to make the tea properly, the water must be absolutely boiling.
- 3.—That five minutes' infusion is all that is needed.
- 4.—That the tea is wholesome and free from bitterness.
- 5.—That it may be drunk with or without sugar or cream.
- 6.—In teas from all other countries, the manufacture is entirely by the crude, ancient and unclean hand-rolling process.

In China and Japan Prussian blue and other deleterious substances are used for coloring, which, with other adulterations, make nerve disturbing decoctions.

The leaf of India and Ceylon Tea is of marvelous strength. It is picked every ten days, and, after "withering," is then rolled and manufactured entirely by machinery especially designed to eliminate all chance of contact with impurities by touch of the human hand. HENCE CLEANLINESS AND PURITY, COMBINED WITH FLAVOR AND STRENGTH.

These are the great desiderata, and can be found only in the machine manufactured teas of India and Ceylon; the only countries where tea is made exclusively by machinery.

No coloring matter or adulterant of any kind is used in their preparation. Their fine flavor is the natural bouquet, and is not artificial.

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MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE MORN-SONG.

There is a song sung by the waking bird,
A song that the lipping leaflets thirst to hear;
Hardly by mortal ear is its music heard,
Dear it is to the flowers as the dew is dear;
In the chill of the morn the brittle bough-
lets break,
Leaning the sound of its sweetest tones to
take.

'Tis filled with the trill and cry of the joy of
morn,
With the wail and sob of the hursting bud in
pain,
With a whisper glad for the many flowerets-
born,
With a sweet wail sad for many returned
again
To the heaven of flowers ere the sweet day
came to see,
To the unknown father of all that bade
them be.

The song was known to us all ere we could
speak,
When in the holy arms we helpless lay,
Known 'tis yet to the childlike poet meek,
Lost to all who have let the world's fierce day
Dry from their souls the blessed dew of
morn,
Burn up the flowers of charity with them
born.
—Aaron Mason, in New York Sun.

CHURCHLESS CHRISTIANS.

THAT there are Christians in great numbers outside the church we neither affirm nor deny. We leave the matter to the Searcher of Hearts; but we do respectfully inquire wherein these outside Christians make their existence known; wherein do they show their allegiance to Christ; wherein do they manifest the fact that "Christ's doctrine is entering into their best striving and working?" Christ says to his disciples, "Ye are the light of the world." Wherein does the light of these outside Christians shine? Are they, in imitation of Christ, going to the ignorant and destitute, to carry light and hope and salvation? Are they reading the words of Christ in the cottage, in the cellar, in the attic, at the sick-bed, in the prison, in the poorhouse, in the hospital? Are they living lives of prayer? Are they praying with their families? Are they going out as missionaries, self-sustaining, to China and India and Africa?—National Baptist.

WHY CAST DOWN?

"Why art thou cast down, O my soul?" It is proper to ask the question why. Perhaps the cause is a purely physical one. It is not sin, but disease, which depresses, and if so, it gives a ray of comfort to know the fact. Dyspepsia breeds despondency. Four days of rain and fog make one doubt whether the church is making much progress. A torpid liver clothes the world in sackcloth, and a nervous headache makes one so irritable as to resent the harmless joke of a friend. The body acts upon the mind. Morbid views may come from impure blood, and fault-finding not from a bad heart, but from overtaxed nerves. Courage for life is a struggle. Piety first and last, and then pure air, sunlight, moderation in food and work, perhaps a little medicine, and sky and earth and familiar scenes and familiar faces will seem to us to brighten.—New York Advocate.

WOMAN WAS MADE FROM AN ELM STICK.

In the Scandinavian myth of the origin of woman, Odin, Vill and Ve, the three sons of Bor, were walking along the sea-beach, when they found two sticks of wood—one of ash and one of elm. Odin and his brothers were gods, of course, but the sight of the sticks caused them to wish that they could carve other gods from the inanimate wood. They forthwith set about the task, with the result that they made a living man out of the ash stick, and a female, being in godlike form, equally as lively as the man, out of the elm stick.

KEY-NOTE OF HARMONY.

If you should wish to be miserable, you must think about yourself—about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay to you, and then to you nothing will be pure. You will spoil everything you touch; you will make sin and misery for yourself out of everything which God sends you; you will be as wretched as you choose.—Charles Kingsley.

A Sufferer Relieved

A Tale of Suffering and Subsequent Relief.

From the Press, Columbus, Ohio.

One of the many persons in Columbus, Ohio, who have been benefited by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People is Miss Jernsha McKinney, of 50 South Centre Street. Miss McKinney is well and favorably known, especially in educational circles, as she has been for a number of years a faithful and progressive school teacher.

For some time she has been very ill and the sufferings and tortures endured by her for months have been unusually severe. The tale of her sufferings and the subsequent relief and final cure which she derived from the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, aroused considerable agitation among her many friends and others.

A reporter was detailed to obtain a reliable account of this marvelous case, and when he called he found Miss McKinney at her comfortable and cozy home where she cheerfully complied with his request. She said:

"The first indication that I had that anything was radically wrong with me was about three years ago. I suffered the most excruciating pains in different parts of my body and was almost crazed at times. My sleep was disturbed by horrible dreams and I had begun to waste away to almost a shadow. To add to my other afflictions the malady assumed a catarrhal turn and I was soon a victim to that horrible as well as disgusting disease. I consulted the family physician who gave me some kind of a nostrum and I was foolish enough to imagine that it benefited me. I followed the advice of the physicians but noticed no perceptible improvement in my condition and was about to despair of ever becoming a strong and well woman again.

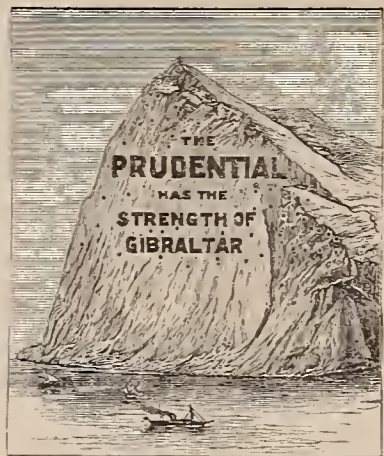
"Some of my lady friends were calling on me one afternoon and before them I happened to mention my troubles, when one of

them recommended that I try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I had never had any faith in medicines of that kind and paid but little attention to the suggestion. It was not long after this, however, that I again heard the pills highly recommended, by several persons, and then it was that I decided to give them a trial and purchased one box of the pills. I soon began to notice an improvement in my condition and before the whole box had been taken my health was so much improved, that I was about ready to begin singing the praises of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

"I was not yet thoroughly convinced and decided to wait awhile before growing enthusiastic over the results, and had begun on the second box before I was confident that I had at last found a medicine to meet the requirements of my case. I discontinued my calls to the physicians and have left them alone since. I am now as well and strong as I ever was in my life; am entirely free from all pains and never felt better in my life. I eat regularly and sleep like a babe. No more are my slumbers haunted with fearful dreams and when I retire at night I go to sleep at once. I regard Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People as my salvation, and would recommend them to all ladies troubled as I was. The pills are more than what is claimed for them and anyone giving them a trial will soon come to the same conclusion regarding their merits that I have."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are for sale by all druggists, or may be had by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y., for 50c. per box, or six boxes for \$2.50.

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W D O O O C K Q U L I A P R T A R I D G
E S P N I E L V E B R D I M W A D O H T L

We will recognize as a bird anything belonging to the feathered tribe, whether it is a Hen, Crow, Singer or any other kind. You can use any letter as many times as it appears in the list of letters above; for instance Woodcock, Plover, Snow Bird, &c. To any person who can make a list of 25 or more different names of birds, we will give absolutely FREE as a prize, a fine Solitaire Apparec Diamond Ring. It is of exquisite beauty. It is equal in appearance and every other respect to a genuine \$75 ring, except intrinsically. The ring is fine gold plate, and the stone is such an exact imitation of the most costly gems as to puzzle experts. It is just such a ring as is always salable at a handsome price. Therefore, when you get this ring as a prize for making out the names of 25 birds from above letters, you will secure a most desirable present. To the person who sends us the largest list of names as above stated, before December 25th, 1897, we will give \$100 Cash. To the second largest list \$75, to the third \$50, to the fourth \$25. To each of the next ten \$5. In case two or more persons have the same number of names (and thus tie), the prize entitled will be divided equally between them. For instance if 40 names was the largest list and two persons made up that number, each would get \$50 and so on. No matter where you live you can enter this contest and get a prize if you get 25 or more names. With your list of names you must send us a silver quarter or twenty-six cents in stamps to pay for MODERN STORIES one whole year. If you are already a subscriber, your subscription will be extended or you can have MODERN STORIES sent to a friend. It is a Handsome Illustrated Monthly Magazine, each issue is brimful of wit, humor and interesting stories. Prizes sent promptly. List of words without 25 cents for subscription not accepted in contest. Make your list out on a separate sheet of paper from the one you write your order for subscription on. Mark the number of names you make at the head of the list like this (35) and say all you have to say about list on this sheet. On the other simply say: enclosed 25 cents for MODERN STORIES one year. Sign your name and address to both sheets of paper and send in the same envelope with the 25 cents. One sheet goes to the Subscription Department, the other to the Contest Department. Consequently, it is necessary to have your name and address on both. We will give A Bonus Prize of \$25 independent of all others to the person who sends in the list gotten up in the best and handsomest manner. Contest closes December 25th, 1897. Our Committee will then decide and award prizes at once. Any bird name found in dictionaries accepted. MODERN STORIES PUB. CO., Dept. A. E., 111 Nassau St., New York.

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We will give one half-round Ring, 18K Rolled Gold plate & warranted to anyone who will sell 1 doz. Indestructible Lamp Wicks (need no trimming) among friends at 10c. each. Write us and we will mail you the Wicks. You sell them and send us the money and we will mail you the Ring. STAR CHEMICAL CO., Box 455, Centerbrook, Conn.

WATCHING.

We watch; for the night is far spent. Not only do we know of naught before us ere the Lord arrive, but we know of much behind us. Hours, years, ages, have gone by. And if the whole night was to be brief, only "a little while," then surely very much of it must now be over. "The night is far spent," says the apostle; literally, it is "cut off," it is foreshortened, that is, it is becoming shorter, it is drawing to a close. Behind us are lying centuries of tears and shadows; the greater part of the little while must be past; the day must be at hand. The nearness makes the thought of day doubly welcome. We bend toward it with warm longings; we strain our eyes to catch the first token of it; we rouse ourselves to vigilance, knowing that now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed.—Horatius Bonar.

BEER-DRINKING.

There is no higher scientific authority before the people of this country than the "Scientific American." Accustomed to observe closely, think carefully and to speak accurately, the opinion of this journal is a weighty one, worth considering. Here is what the "Scientific American" says of beer and beer-drinking:

"It is our observation that beer-drinking in this country produces the very lowest kind of inebriety, closely allied to criminal insanity. The most dangerous class of ruffians in our large cities are beer-drinkers. Intellectually, a stupor amounting to almost paralysis arrests the reason, changing all the higher faculties into mere animalism, selfish, sluggish, varied only with paroxysms of anger, senseless and brutal."

A USEFUL CLUB.

There is a club of women in New York City that is as modest as it is remarkable. It is called "The Best Way Club," and is composed of well-to-do women living in a handsome cross-street up town. The objects of the organization are mutual help and encouragement. It takes its name from the obligation a member is under to disclose to her colleagues the details of any discovery she may make as to the best way of performing any of the duties, labors or obligations that devolve upon her in her various relations of life. It is an open secret that the club has carefully avoided discussing the best way of obtaining the suffrage. Perhaps that is the reason that it still exists and flourishes.—New York World.

THE AUTHOR OF A NOTED HYMN.

If ever there was a noble hymn it is "Nearer, My God, to Thee." Strange and sad it is to hear that the writer, Sarah Flower Adams, who was born in Cambridge, England, in 1805, and who died in 1848, wrote the poem which has carried on its poetic wings the expression of the most intense religious feelings, without having in her own heart the thrill of faith it so strongly expresses. Is it not the expression of anguished doubt endeavoring to escape from its own thralldom?

RENEWING THEIR PRIVILEGES.

Women used to have a few of the political privileges they are now demanding. Women sat in council with the Saxon tribes; abbesses deliberated with the king, bishops and nobles at Beconcelled in 694, and five of them signed the decree of the assembly; in the reign of Henry III. and of Edward I. four abbesses were summoned to parliament, and in the reign of Edward III. six countesses were distinguished in the same way.

DRAW UPON HIM.

When you have used the power God has already given you, then ask for more, but not until then. You may be presumptuous in asking, but God is never improvident in giving. "He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think," or are worthy to receive, but it is for use, not for hoarding. Draw upon him for service.

STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST.

The excuse of the inebriate often is, "My heredity is against me." But the reply of the "white-ribboner" is a good one: "If you had lived up to your best heredity instead of down to your worst you might have had cause to extol your heredity."

Smiles.

There was a young poet in Wemyss,
Who cried, "Oh, how awful it semys,
When asleep late at night,
Lovely poetry to write,
And awakening, find 'tis but dreamys."

She's attended by numerous beaux
When down to the sea-shore she geaux,
Though it isn't her face
That draws them apace,
But the Trilbyesque curves of her teaux.
—Indianapolis Journal.

SIMPLY FRIGHTFUL.

I held her hand but a moment there,
Yielding and warm and white.
And then let go, for don't you know,
Somebody turned up the light.

THEN HE WENT.

"That goes without saying," says young Mr. Vaughn.
(The roosters already were crowing.)
"What bothers me mostly," said Kate, with a yawn,
"Is something that says without going."
—Detroit Free Press.

CUTE JAPANESE.

THE Japanese are getting too cute," said George Bradshaw, of London, at the Palmer, recently. "They are the cleverest people in the world, I believe. Last winter I traveled all through the land of the Mikado. We arrived at Yosaka one day, and it is quite a small town. We did not know where to stop. There were a number of inns, and we were asked to stop at each one that we passed, but I didn't like the appearance of any of them. Presently we ran across a neat, tidy place that looked quite English. There was a big sign in front like this:

English, German and French
spoken here.

"That suited us, for we were obliged to communicate with some one in the village, and we could talk but little Japanese. Soon after our arrival we asked for the interpreter.

"'Pardon, master,' mumbled the landlord in cracked English, 'but I have none now.'

"We were just able to understand him. He knew a few English words and we knew a few Japanese.

"'No interpreter?' we exclaimed.

"'No.'

"'Your sign says that all languages are spoken here.'

"'They are.'

"'By whom?'

"'The guests. We have all kinds at different times.'"
—Chicago Herald.

WHEEL SLANG.

The wheel is a more prolific source of slang than most modern inventions. The "Cycling Gazette," of Cleveland, has been collecting specimens of the liberties taken by cyclists with the English language, and prints the following:

In many western towns a lady rider is called a "bloomer," whether she wears them or not. The word "scorcher," as indicating a speedy cyclist, is tangled with our language beyond extrication. In Chicago, however, the speedy rider is called a "scoot." Where slangy people used to say, "You made a miscue," or "You slipped your trolley," they now say, "Your tire is punctured," meaning that you have come to grief. Wild talk is called "coasting." An old story is not a "chestnut," but a "century." A young couple evidently attached to one another are said to be "riding tandem." A man leading a fast life is "geared too high." An elderly cyclist is called "a high wheel," an allusion to the primitive bicycle. A chaperon is known as a "pacemaker." There are many other slang phrases, but the above are the best of the list printed by the paper mentioned.

BELLES OF CROW AGENCY BOARDING-SCHOOL.

The Indian girls of the Crow agency boarding-school, in Montana, gave a soiree dansante the other evening, and the following girls were present: Clara Spotted-Horse, Edith Long-Ear, Kittie Medicine-Tail, Lena Old-Bear, Clara Bull-Nose, Blanche Little-Star, Nellie Shell-on-the-Neck, Mary Old-Jack-Rabbit, Bertha Full-Mouth, Katie Dreamer, Fanny Plenty-Butterflies, Bessie Crooker-Arm, Martha Long-Neck, Isabel Lunch, Floy Hairy-Wolf, Alice Shoots-as-She-Goes, Stella Wolf-House, Lucy Hawks, Beatrice Beads-on-Ankle, Susie Bear-Lays-Down, Louisa Three-Wolves, Anna Medicine-Pipe, Maggie Broken-Ankle, Ruth Bear-in-the-Middle, Helen Comes-Out-of-Fog, Sarah Three-Irons, Ida Wrinkle-Face, Jessie Flat-Head-Woman, Lottie Grandmother's-Knife, Esther Knows-Her-Gun, Minnie Nods-at-Bear and Daisy Young-Heifer.
—Chicago Tribune.

BEWARE OF MORPHINE.

Mrs. Pinkham Asks Women to Seek Permanent Cures and Not Mere Temporary Relief From Pain.

Special forms of suffering lead many a woman to acquire the morphine habit. One of these forms of suffering is a dull, persistent pain in the side, accompanied by heat and throbbing. There is disinclination to work, because work only increases the pain.

This is only one symptom of a chain of troubles; she has others she cannot bear to confide to her physician, for fear of an examination, the terror of all sensitive, modest women.

The physician, meantime, knows her condition, but cannot combat her shrinking terror. He yields to her supplication for something to relieve the pain. He gives her a few morphine tablets, with very grave caution as to their use. Foolish woman! She thinks morphine will help her right along; she becomes its slave!

A wise and a generous physician had such a case; he told his patient he could do nothing for her, as she was too nervous to undergo an examination. In despair, she went to visit a friend. She said to her, "Don't give yourself up; just go to the nearest druggist's and buy a bottle of Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It will build you up. You will begin to feel better with the first bottle." She did so, and after the fifth bottle her health was re-established. Here is her own letter about it:



"I was very miserable; was so weak that I could hardly get around the house, could not do any work without feeling tired out. My monthly periods had stopped and I was so tired and nervous all of the time. I was troubled very much with falling of the womb and bearing-down pains. A friend advised me to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; I have taken five bottles, and think it is the best medicine I ever used. Now I can work, and feel like myself. I used to be troubled greatly with my head, but I have had no bad headaches or palpitation of the heart, womb trouble or bearing-down pains, since I commenced to take Mrs. Pinkham's medicine. I gladly recommend the Vegetable Compound to every suffering woman. The use of one bottle will prove what it can do."—MRS. LUCY PEASLEY, Derby Center, Vt.



AUDIENCE COULDN'T STAND THE RAISE.

Several years ago there was a local campaign in Richmond county. A colored preacher was addressing an audience of negro voters, and the whites were smiling approval.

"Fellow-citizens," said the eloquent divine, "would you sell your vote for \$1?"

"No," thundered three hundred denizens of Rabbit Hill, and the shock could be felt a mile.

"Fellow-citizens," shouted the orator, nearing to his climax, "would you sell your vote for \$5?"

The response was still creditably in the negative, but not so large as before. Several times he called on the crowd, carrying them through the rising figures of vote value, but as the amounts increased the protests dropped off. Finally, when the minister asked if any man in the crowd would sell his vote for \$20, the silence was appalling, and the air at the recording desk felt like two icebergs had met in the sea after sundown.

The point is that there is a limit to oratorical climax, and it is better not to go too far even with an excited audience.—Savannah Press.

AN APT ILLUSTRATION.

He was an inquisitive boy, much interested in business methods, and had just been reading about the New York stock exchange.

"Father," he said, "in order to buy and sell stocks have you actually got to be in Wall street?"

"Not at all," replied his father; "you can live anywhere. In Washington, for instance."—Life.

A LESSON IN ETIQUETTE.

"I know," said the African chief, bitterly, "that your people will sooner or later grab my territory."

"Don't use such harsh expressions," said the European diplomat, soothingly. "We may, some time, find it necessary to rectify our frontier, but don't talk about grabbing territory."—Puck.

WAITING FOR WORK.

"I assure you, madam," said he, "that I would not be begging my bread from door to door if I could but procure employment at my profession."

"Poor man!" said the good woman, as she handed out a pie. "What is your profession?"

"I am an air-ship pilot, madam."—Detroit Free Press.

QUICK DIAGNOSIS.

Stranger (after an examination)—"Well, doctor, what do you think? Have I the gout?"

Great physician—"H'm! Er—what is your income?"

Stranger—"Twelve hundred a year."

Great physician—"No; you've got a sore foot."—New York Weekly.

A TRAGIC ENCOUNTER.

"Kitty scared a burglar out of the house last night."

"Oh! how did she do it?"

"He met her in the hall with her complexion-mask on, and just flew out of the window—thought she was in the business."

THE BOY KNEW.

"Now, boys," said the teacher, after delivering a little lecture on the divisions of the year, "how many months have twenty-eight days?"

"All of them," promptly replied a bright boy in front.—New York Tribune.

A DREADFUL DILEMMA.

"To save me, I can't tell which Jones girl I want to marry."

"What is the matter?"

"One makes such delicious strawberry shortcake, but the other one looks so lovely on her wheel."—Detroit Free Press.

SHE CHANGED HIS MIND.

"I thought you said, Grumpy, that you would never allow your wife to ride a wheel?"

"So I did; but she happened to hear of it."—Detroit Free Press.

LITTLE BITS.

"Your cook is a very handsome girl."

"She is. She mashes the potatoes by smiling at them."—Amusing Journal.

Nurse—"Johnnie, the stork has just brought you a little baby. Wouldn't you like to see your little brother?"

Johnnie—"Naw; but I'd like to see the stork."—Stockholm Kasper.

One of the surgeons of a hospital asked an Irish help which he considered the most dangerous of the many cases then in the hospital. "That, sir," said Pat, pointing to a case of surgical instruments.

Isaacs—"I tried to read vun of dem Scotch novels, but I dells you, dot dialect is ridgulous."

Cohenstein—"So?"

Isaacs—"It's awful. T'ink of callin' a body of vater 'a burn!'"

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E. A. FORD,
Gen'l Passenger Agent,
Pittsburgh, Pa.,
Sept. 30, 1897.

Our Miscellany.

THE HOME CATECHISM IN PHILADELPHIA.

A good many hundreds and even thousands of long-suffering husbands can bear sorrowful testimony to the fact that this is the sort of catechism the wives of their bosoms subject them to every time they put on their hats to go out in the evening:

"Where are you going?"
"Oh, I'm going out for a few minutes."
"Where?"
"Oh, nowhere in particular."
"What for?"
"Oh, nothing."
"Why do you go, then?"
"Well, I want to go, that's why."
"Do you have to go?"
"I don't know that I do."
"Why do you go, then?"
"Because."
"Because what?"
"Well, simply because."
"Going to be gone long?"
"No."
"How long?"
"I don't know."
"Anybody going with you?"
"No."
"Well, it's strange that you can't be content to stay at home a few minutes. Don't be gone long, will you?"
"No."
"See that you don't."
This is one reason why so many marriages are a dead, flat fizzle and failure.—Philadelphia Times.

A PERFECT HOME.

Helen Hunt says: "The most perfect home I ever saw was a little house into the sweet incense of whose fires went no costly things. A thousand dollars served as a year's living for father, mother and three children. But the mother was the creator of a home; her relations with the children were the most beautiful I have ever seen; every inmate of the house involuntarily looked into her face for the key-note of the day, and it always rang clear. From the rose-bud or clover-leaf—which, in spite of her hard housework, she always found time to put beside our plates at breakfast—down to the story she had on hand to read in the evening, there was no intermission of her influence. She has always been and always will be my ideal of a mother, wife and home-maker. If to her quick brain, loving heart and exquisite face had been added the appliances of wealth and enlargements of wide culture, hers would have been absolutely the ideal home. As it was, it was the best I have ever seen."

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

LEGAL ADVICE.

Mrs. De Temper—"I am not happy with my husband. Shall I drive him away?"
Lawyer—"His life is insured in your favor, isn't it?"
Mrs. De Temper—"Yes; I made him do that before we married."
Lawyer—"Well, don't drive him off. He'll die quicker where he is."—New York Weekly.

HUNTERS' EXCURSION RATES.

Parties of three or more may secure one-fare rates to designated local points on the line of the Nickel Plate Road, in western Ohio and Indiana; also, single tickets will be sold to points in the Northwest and Southwest.

SHE WAS AWAY.

"Why, Nellie, dear," said the little girl's teacher, "I haven't seen you for several days."
"None," replied Nellie; "I've been on an excursion with mama."—Harper's Bazar.

IN NEED OF BREAD.

An Arkansas editor, reading that a young lady in New York kneads bread with her gloves on, says: "We need bread with our boots on; we need bread with our pants on, and if our subscribers in arrears don't pay up soon, we shall need bread without anything on."

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

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The first thing to do in reading a book or a story in a magazine or any other thing worth reading is to ascertain who wrote it. An author talks to us in his books, and just as we like to know the friends we talk with, we should like to know the name of the man or woman whose published thoughts are entering into our daily lives. Therefore, make it a rule, girls, to read the title-page of the volume in your hand; and if there be a preface, unless it be a very long one, read that, too. You will in this way establish an acquaintance with your author; you will know him by sight, and soon you will know him more intimately. Every author has little ways and words of his own, and you will find yourself recognizing these very swiftly and lovingly. By and by, when you happen in your story on some phrase, or turn of a sentence, or little jesting mannerism which belongs to the author you are growing well acquainted with, you will feel pleased, and the story will mean a great deal more to you than if it were simply the work of an unknown person.—Harper's Round Table.

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Selections.

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In these days, when there is so much talk of heredity, we ought to recognize, as usually we do not, our obligations to the decent men and women from whom we have the good fortune to be derived. The ancestor who hands us down money gets recognition. He has done something that we can understand, and we name our children after him, and try to keep his name before the world. But the saints in our family records—the men and women who have made a stand for us against sensuality and laziness—we do not half appreciate. It is a pity we are so dull. How much do we really profit if from the same money-maker who leaves us an income upon which we can afford to drink beer we inherit a thirst which can only be appeased by champagne? The wise king was as sagacious as usual when he said that a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches; but he was indisputably and obviously sagacious if, when he said "a good name," he meant good blood.—Scribner's.

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I have been so successful in the past few months that I feel it my duty to aid others by giving them my experience. I have not made less than \$18 any day for the last five months, and have not canvassed any. I put a notice in the papers that I am selling the Iron City Dish Washer, and people send for them by the dozen. They give such good satisfaction that every family wants one. Dishes washed and dried in two minutes. I think any person can easily clear \$10 a day, and double that after they get started good. I don't see why any one should be destitute, when they may just as well be making lots of money if they try. Address the Iron City Dish Washer Co., 145 S. Highland Ave., Station A, Pittsburg, Pa., and they will give you all instructions and testimonials necessary to succeed.

THE DOCTOR AND THE BARBER.

Whether or not a physician should shave is a question which is now agitating medical circles. Examinations of the beards of doctors who have been among patients suffering from contagious diseases disclose the fact that they have sometimes brought away with them large numbers of disease germs in their whiskers. Certainly there is every reason to suppose that this may be the case. Every one who has ever given thought to the matter is aware that the odor of tobacco-smoke stays in the beard for a long time, and it is reasonable to suppose that other odors with their accompanying germs may lodge there also. A clean-shaven man is therefore, all things considered, much the more desirable as a family doctor than the man with bushy whiskers.

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THIS WILL INTEREST MANY.

F. W. Parkhurst, the Boston publisher, says that if any one who is afflicted with rheumatism in any form, or neuralgia, will send their addresses to him at box 1,501, Boston, Mass., he will direct them to a perfect cure. He has nothing to sell or give, only tells you how he was cured. Hundreds have tested it with success.

30% PROFIT PER ANNUM

is assured, and chance for large further gains offered by the **United States Tunnel, Mining, Milling, Drainage, and Transportation Company**, of Idaho Springs, Colorado. This Company now offers for sale to shrewd investors a limited amount of treasury stock (par value \$1.00 per share), at 50 cents on the dollar. All money thus obtained will be applied to the rapid development of the tunnel, erection of mill and smelting machinery, electric light works, etc.

The Company owns (1) the United States Tunnel, secured by U. S. laws, situated in Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, Colorado. The tunnel begins at Hukill Gulch, half a mile from the town of Idaho Springs (36 miles by railroad from Denver), and runs through Bellevue Mountain, under the rich group of mines at the head of Virginia Canon, across the most productive part of Russell District, through the very heart of Quartz Hill, and into the midst of the best mines of Gunnell and Eureka. The entire distance is three and a quarter miles, and from mouth to terminus the tunnel runs through continuous gold-producing territory, found in true fissure veins. Of the gold-bearing veins directly crossed by the tunnel, 114 have been already developed and patented, and as many more have been discovered and worked. It has already cut two blind lodes, which assay well in gold, and will pay for working. Work on the tunnel was begun in 1895, and has been continued since. 500 feet have been already completed, and a railroad tramway has been laid the full distance. The United States Tunnel is a

TUNNEL THROUGH A GOLD MOUNTAIN

for Bellevue Mountain undoubtedly is the richest gold district in the world.

(2) **Fifteen Mines**, each 1,500 feet on the lode by 150 feet in width, located on the line of the tunnel. Ore rich in gold has already been struck in several of these mines, and the Omaha, Wabash, Big Four, and Gazette are particularly promising. They have each shafts from 15 to 20 feet deep, and the veins thereon are from four to five feet wide, and assay from \$7.00 to \$21.00 in gold. (3) **The mill site**, consisting of 53 acres of patented ground, immediately adjoining the town of Idaho Springs, and close to the Colorado Central Railroad. This site is ample for mills, smelting and all other purposes. (4) **Water privileges** covering the water rights on South Clear and Chicago Creek, giving 200 horse power, sufficient for all company purposes.

The objects of the Company are: (1) To afford much better facilities for economically working rich mines along the line of the tunnel. (2) To discover, cross cut and work newly discovered lodes. (3) To erect stamps and concentrating mills and smelting works on the Company's mill site for the treatment and reduction of ores, both from the Company's mines and from other mines connected with the tunnel. (4) To furnish electric light, electric and other power to the various mines along the line of the tunnel. (5) To transport to the mines timber, mine supplies and workmen. Working a rich district through a shaft is like making a hole in the roof of a well-filled barn, and by means of a ladder carrying out the wheat, corn, horses, sleds, etc. A tunnel affords an entrance like a barn door, and the minerals may be easily extracted by its means.

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Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, in Colorado, produced precious metals in the past five years valued at \$29,253,635, according to the official statistics, 70% of this being in gold. The United States Tunnel cross cuts mines that produced 45% of this, or \$13,500,000.

Instead of working from the surface of the mountain, these mines can conduct all operations from the tunnel at a tremendous saving in expense. Whereas it now costs \$8.53 per ton to produce the gold, a careful estimate shows that, worked through the tunnel, it would cost only \$4.77 per ton. Of course, the various mines would gladly pay fair royalties to take advantage of this enormous saving.

Professor S. W. Tyler, the celebrated mining engineer of Denver, Colorado, a graduate of the Universities of Goettingen and Freiburg, Germany, in an exhaustive report on the United States Tunnel, gives the following as a conservative estimate of the yearly revenue and profit of the Company, exclusive of the Company's mines:

	SOURCE.	INCOME.	PROFIT.	PRICE
SAFE	Hauling	\$613,200	\$306,600	50 CENTS
AS A	Drainage	50,000	50,000	A SHARE IF
GOVERNMENT	Power Supply	100,000	50,000	BOUGHT NOW
BOND	Royalties	100,000	100,000	
	Milling (1,500 tons daily)	821,250	273,750	
	Total	\$1,684,450	\$780,350	

which is sufficient to pay an annual dividend of 15% on the par value of stock, or 30% on the present investment. 15% to 30% additional may be confidently expected from the results of working the company's own mines.

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The President of the Company is Mr. Edward A. Quintard, the well known President of the Citizens Savings Bank, New York City, and the Directors are E. A. Quintard; F. Baltes, Bank President, New York City; William L. Wood, Cashier Bank of Jamaica, Jamaica, N. Y.; Alexander R. Hart, President Long Island Electric Railway Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Juan C. Abel, Publisher of the Nickel Magazine, Boston, Mass.; William E. Lown, President Tidal Oil Co., New York City; James C. Fagan, Idaho Springs, Colorado; Homer A. Hoit, New York City; Charles E. Jackson, banker, Middletown, Conn.

The gentlemen composing the Board of Directors are all men of unquestioned integrity and large business experience in successful ventures, and afford absolute guarantee that the affairs of the Company will be honestly, skilfully, and economically conducted for the benefit of all the stockholders. This Company offers a **safe investment**, with opportunities for large and steadily increasing profits for an indefinite period, and invites the fullest investigation. It is not an untried scheme, but a legitimate, conservative enterprise.

The stock is fully paid and non-assessable, and subject to no further call.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE. For every two shares you wish to purchase, remit \$1 by money order, bank check or draft; thus \$5 will buy ten shares, \$10 will buy twenty shares, etc. Make all checks and drafts payable to William E. Lown, Treasurer. Stock certificates will be sent you by return mail. Write your name and address very plainly. Prospectus sent on application, but as amount of stock for sale at the present price is strictly limited, it is advisable **not to delay**, but subscribe now. Address the eastern office,

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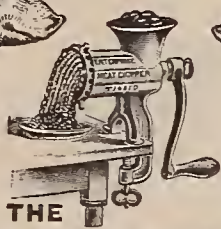
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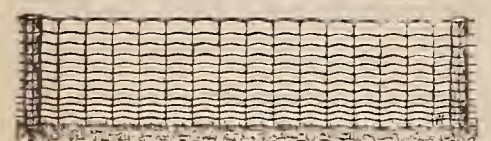
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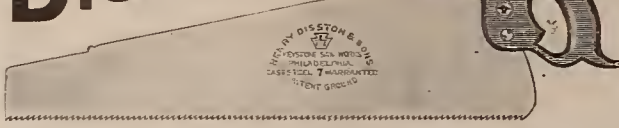
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There are thirty words in this schedule, from each of which letters have been omitted and their places have been supplied by dashes. To fill in the blank spaces and get the names properly you must have some knowledge of geography and history. We want you to spell out as many words as you can, then send to us with 25 cents to pay for a three months' subscription to **WOMAN'S WORLD**. For correct lists we shall give \$200.00 in cash. If more than one person sends a full, correct list, the money will be awarded to the fifty best lists in appearance. Also, if your list contains twenty or more correct words, we shall send you a beautiful **Egeria Diamond Scarf Pin** (for lady or gentleman), the regular price of which is \$2.25. Therefore, by sending your list, you are positively certain of the \$2.25 prize, and by being careful to send a correct list you have an opportunity of the \$200.00 cash award. The distance that you may live from New York makes no difference. All have equal opportunity for winning.

PRIZES WILL BE SENT PROMPTLY.

Prizes will be honestly awarded and promptly sent. We publish the list of words to be studied out. In making your list of answers, be sure to give the number of each word:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. - R A - I - A country of South America. | 16. B - S M - - K A noted ruler. |
| 2. - A - I - I - Name of the largest body of water. | 17. - - C T O - I - Another noted ruler. |
| 3. M - D - - E - - A - E - - A sea. | 18. P - R - U - A - Country of Europe. |
| 4. - M - - O - A large river. | 19. A - S T - A - I - A big island. |
| 5. T - A - - S Well known river of Europe. | 20. M - - I N - E - Name of the most prominent American. |
| 6. S - - A N - A - A city in one of the Southern States. | 21. T - - A - One of the United States. |
| 7. H - - - - X A city of Canada. | 22. J - F - - R - - N Once President of the United States. |
| 8. N - A - A - A Noted for display of water. | 23. - U - - N A large lake. |
| 9. - E - - E - - E - One of the United States. | 24. E - E - S - N A noted poet. |
| 10. - A - R I - A city of Spain. | 25. C - R - A A foreign country, same size as Kansas. |
| 11. H - V - - A A city on a well known island. | 26. B - R - - O A large island. |
| 12. S - M - E - A well known old fort of the United States. | 27. W - M - - S W - R - D Popular family magazine. |
| 13. G - - R - L - A - Greatest fortification in the world. | 28. B - H - I - G A sea. |
| 14. S - A - L E - A great explorer. | 29. A - L - N - I - An ocean. |
| 15. C - L - F - - I - One of the United States. | 30. M - D - G - S - A - An island near Africa. |

In sending your list of words, mention whether you want prize money sent by bank draft, money order or registered mail; we will send any way that winners require. The **Egeria Diamond** is a perfect imitation of a Real Diamond of large size. We defy experts to distinguish it from real except by microscopic test. In every respect it serves the purpose of Genuine Diamond of Purest Quality. It is artistically mounted in a fine gold-plated pin, warranted to wear forever. This piece of jewelry will make a most desirable gift to a friend if you do not use it yourself. At present our supply of these gifts is limited, and if they are all gone when your set of answers comes in, we shall send you \$2.25 in money instead of the Scarf or Shawl Pin, so you shall either receive the piece of jewelry or the equivalent in cash, in addition to your participative interest in the \$200.00 cash prize. This entire offer is an honest one, made by a responsible publishing house. We refer to mercantile agencies and any bank in New York. We will promptly refund money to you if you are dissatisfied. What more can we do? Now study, and exchange slight brain work for cash. With your list of answers send 25 cents to pay for three months' subscription to our great family magazine, **Woman's World**. If you have already subscribed, mention that fact in your letter, and we will extend your subscription from the time the present one expires. To avoid loss in sending silver, wrap money very carefully in paper before inclosing in your letter. Address:

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WITH THE VANGUARD

THE "Illustrated American" tersely points out some of the advantages of postal savings banks in the following:

"Postmaster-General Gary's plan to establish small branch savings banks in every post-office, with a great central deposit bank in Washington, ought to take hold of the common sense of the people.

"It settles very simply the troublesome question, 'What shall be done with small savings?' Small savings worry both possessor and public.

"The possessors who have deposited their money distrust banks. Those who have not deposited it keep awake over their stocking-tip hoards, or dream of burglars.

"In time of plenty bankers do not care to receive small savings. Insignificant deposits do not pay for the book-keeping they entail.

"Moreover, there are large numbers of people who cannot reach banks.

"In time of panic small savings do not get into the banks. They are hoarded, and national circulation of currency becomes auemic.

"The proposed postal savings bank system will be safe enough to draw forth the most cherished hoard, and will be right at hand in the most remote districts. The whole credit of the nation will be back of it.

"Under this plan any man, woman or child over ten years of age may fill out a slip at any post-office, pay the postmaster a deposit and receive a bank-book. By application a few days beforehand he may withdraw his money at will. While the deposit is in the hands of the government it will draw a moderate interest.

"Thus at small cost the system will accomplish a great benefit to the people.

"It will be safe as long as the government is safe. Depositors will have an interest in seeing that the government is not imperiled. Thus the system will stimulate patriotism.

"It will break up hoarding and keep money in circulation. This has been proved in England, where the system began thirty-six years ago.

"The chief disadvantage of the measure proposed is its possible effect upon small savings banks in county-seats everywhere about the country. These institutions will

probably oppose it. But their weight can hardly balance the weight of the popular advantages of the system.

"It is now upon a firm basis in England, France, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Sweden, Russia, Hungary, and even Japan. In Canada it has proved a striking success.

"Its introduction into America is likely to be one of the glories of this administration."



In his report to the president, reviewing the work of the Department of Agriculture for the year, Secretary Wilson says:

"We are endeavoring to get information from foreign countries with whom we compete in the markets of the world regarding crops and prices. We are also taking steps to ascertain what crops are grown on different thermal lines, so that seeds and plants may intelligently be brought to this country to assist in the diversification of our crops and to add to their variety. There is necessity for American agents in every foreign country to which we send representatives who have had education in the sciences relating to agriculture. The agricultural colleges endowed by Congress are educating along these lines."



He asks for an increase in the appropriations for the bureau of animal industry, the weather bureau and the experiment station publication office. Referring to the last he says that the department should be enabled to place the results of important operations at the state experiment stations before the entire country, "so that the farmers of each state may get the result of the good work done in other states."



He speaks of the efforts of the department to extend the foreign markets for our dairy and live-stock products, which he thinks can be done by making the foreigners familiar with them. Instead of sending abroad for seeds, he says the policy will be "to encourage the introduction of such seeds as will enable our people to diversify their crops and keep money at home that is now sent abroad to buy what the United States should produce."



The department will work vigorously in the encouragement of the beet-sugar industry, and Secretary Wilson expresses the opinion that this country will, within a few years, produce all the sugar it requires. He also thinks that nearly all of the \$382,000,000 sent abroad last year for sugar, hides, fruits, wines, animals, rice, flax, hemp, cheese, wheat, barley, beans, eggs and silk might have been kept at home.



In times of prosperity the prudent man provides, to the best of his ability, for his family. He looks forward that its daily supply of needs and comforts may continue in the emergency of his death. Little daily savings and safe investments in time accumulate to an abundant provision for the future. But in this period, maybe even long before this wise provision has grown to be adequate to the necessities of the family, death may remove its head. For this emergency there is one thing needful—a good life-insurance policy.

It has become quite common for careful business men to protect their estates by life insurance. It gives a cash fund immediately available to take the place of individual credit, to meet obligations falling due, to carry on the business, or to prevent property from going to forced sale. In this case life insurance may not be necessary to protect the family from want, but it is carried for the purpose of preventing shrinkage in the value of property or business likely to occur if the managing head is taken away.

Good insurance is a particularly sagacious investment for the head of a family who has a mortgage on his homestead. If he is insured for enough to cover the obligation,

he is relieved from much anxiety about the future; in the possible event of his death before the mortgage is paid, the insurance will save the homestead. By no other means can the welfare of his family be so well secured.



This is only a bare suggestion of the reasons for judicious life insurance. It is a subject that should receive the most thoughtful consideration, touching as it does the comfort and happiness of those dearest to one; and the more it is studied the greater will appear the good in it. A little study is sufficient to convince one of the benefits of life insurance. There is a problem in the practical application which calls for the exercise of the best judgment.

There are safe, strong, reliable insurance companies that issue forms of insurance adapted to a variety of needs. The best form for the protection of the family and the home is not expensive. It is not the lowest-priced, in which safety is sacrificed for cheapness; nor the highest-priced, in which a speculative investment is involved. The kind best adapted to every-day needs is plain insurance, either straight life, endowment, limited payment, or in some other form free from purely speculative features. Like everything else of real value, this will cost something, but the cost will be very moderate indeed compared with the real value of a good policy in a safe company.



OUR wheat export movement for the thirteen weeks ending with October 30th was over 70,000,000 bushels—a record that is unprecedented. The foreign buyers have been taking every bushel they could get. It is now clear that if the American farmer had understood the world's wheat situation as well as his foreign customer, there would have been no reaction in the advance of the price, and that not a bushel would have left our ports since the first of September at less than a dollar. The movement of wheat from farmers' hands in the Northwest has been unusually large this season, and to this more than any other cause may be attributed the temporary reaction in the price. The export price is again above the dollar-mark, and present indications point to that as the low mark for future prices. Even if our 1897 crop reaches the most liberal estimate made, Europe will require all our surplus. The heavy movement of wheat from the farm, usual within a few weeks after harvest, is nearing the end. Although general rains have made a decided improvement, fall-sown wheat is in a precarious condition, and careful observers are contemplating the probability of a serious shortage in the crop next harvest.



Under date of October 30th "Bradstreet's" says: "The world has been living on unsuspected excesses of wheat reserves for several years, the existence of which is indicated by several manifest underestimates of the domestic wheat crop by the agricultural bureau, including its underestimate of the size of the crop just harvested. The fact that better informed independent observers place the American crop in 1897 at nearly 590,000,000 bushels seems to be an insurmountable obstacle to advance in wheat prices, in the minds of those who are only partially informed. They overlook the general agreement among the best informed European statisticians that wheat-importing countries in general will need to buy many more millions of bushels this year than in any recent year. . . . The recently stimulated export movement with renewed chartering has apparently reminded the trade that Europe will require all our surplus, even if our crop should prove as large as 600,000,000 bushels, and with the help of vaporings about shorter stocks abroad and damage to the crop in Australia, up goes the price to the dollar-mark again, something which was bound to happen as soon as facts which have been plain to the few could be assimilated by the many. The only thing about wheat prices which could surprise those who know how much wheat will be wanted, and how relatively small the supplies are, would be its refusal to rise well above the interminable dollar-mark."

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NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

A Few Points

This is the first year that I have lost fowls by a really malignant and contagious disease. Cholera has reduced my flock from about two hundred to less than fifty, and this, notwithstanding the free use of disinfectants, as of carbolic acid in drinking-water, etc. The disease began soon after the beginning of the long-continued rains this summer, when it was next to impossible to prevent the fowls from drinking out of little pools of mud and manure-water. I believe the disease germs originated and bred in these pools of stagnant water, and spread through their droppings on the surface all over the poultry-runs. Ducks made a bad matter worse, as they are bound to keep working and digging with their bills in every mud-hole. Many of my neighbors have also suffered serious losses from this same disease. Usually the best, apparently most healthy and heaviest fowls are the first and surest victims. A hen may look the picture of health one day, laying her eggs as usual, the next day be moping around, and the morning after that be found dead under the roost. The droppings frequently had a bright green color. What to do for this disease is the question. If it comes again next year, I shall confine my fowls in the poultry-yard, and keep the ground of the yard well covered with lime or sprinkled with carbolic acid or other strong disinfectants; then feed good wholesome food (charred corn among the other grains occasionally) and use carbolic water. Of course, all disease-affected fowls are to be taken out from the rest and promptly killed and burned. This, I believe, is the safest and most effective method of dealing with chicken-cholera as well as other diseases. Parasites have also to be kept in check, and this can be done by the free use of kerosene in the poultry-houses, on the roosts and nests, etc.

* * *

As my flock of Black Langshans has been so much reduced by cholera, I have bought a flock of White Wyandottes, and shall compare them with the Langshans. My

own preference is still for the latter. Having kept them now more than ten years, I am more pleased with them than ever, as they have proved far more profitable than any other breed I have tried during that time and before. The only bad feature about them is the color of skin and legs. There are fowls far more attractive when dressed than Black Langshans; but the latter, while mature, make good table fowls. I admit they are not good for springers or broilers. The full-grown Langshan, while alive, is one of the most beautiful of all breeds, and as a layer it is hardly surpassed by the Leghorn. Notwithstanding its white skin, the Black Langshan makes a very superior capon. No fault has ever been found with mine in any respect.

* * *

Dressing Poultry. The killing of any animal for market is a job that I dislike. I have very little of the instincts of the hunter, fisherman or butcher in me. And yet when I have to do some killing, I go at it, and make the best of it, always trying to be decent about it, and to avoid the needless infliction of pain to my victims. During summer or fall I usually ship and sell my fowls alive. Capons have to be killed and properly dressed. My favorite method of killing fowls is by chopping off their heads, and I adopt this plan when the purchaser is willing to take the fowls minus head and scalded. Often, however, and always in the case of capons, the head must be left on. Besides, nice fat poultry usually sells at a better price when dry-picked than when scalded. It is not much more difficult to pick a fowl dry than to first scald it. The process has often been described. I first wash the fowl's feet, then hang it up by the legs, the latter well spread. Next I hold the fowl's head with the left hand, under the left arm, and with a French killing-knife make a long and deep cut inside of the bill across the roof of the month, and before withdrawing the knife, run the point up into the brain. The blood now flows freely; the bird is paralyzed, and the feathers come out easily. I always have a small (two-quart) pail, well weighted, ready, with a wire hook attached to the pail. The wire hook is inserted into the fowl's bill. The pail catches the blood, and the weight inside holds the fowl's head down. An open barrel is then placed under the fowl to catch the feathers. Two persons can thus work together to advantage in stripping off the feathers. After a little practice one will easily learn how to do the job well and quickly. With all care, however, one will occasionally tear the skin, especially on the sides of the fowl. Have needle and white thread ready, and sew up the tear. It can be done so that the damage will hardly be noticed. The suggestion to have a separate room for this purpose, to be used, when not needed in this way, for storing feeds, crops and many other things, and to be provided with a stove or fireplace for boiling up potatoes and other vegetables for fowls, is a good one, and well worthy of adoption.

* * *

The Chicken Hatchery. The time will soon be here again when we must think of hatching chicks. For all persons who want to raise more than a hundred or two, I believe the incubator is the thing, and hereafter I shall never again rely only on hens to do my hatching and rearing of chicks. One thing, however, we all should carefully guard against, and that is the danger of the machine catching fire by a defective lamp or some mishap, and setting the building afire. An ordinary cellar is probably a good place for the hatching-machine; but I would set this in such a position that in case it should burn down it would do so without setting the building afire. The better plan in any case, perhaps, would be to have a separate small building in which to set incubators and brooders, so in case fire did break out there would be only a comparatively slight damage. A house of this kind and for this purpose should have dead-air spaces or partitions filled with sawdust all around to make it pretty much independent of the outside temperature.

* * *

Tame Fowls. Whoever raises chicks, ducks, turkeys, etc., with the help of hatching-machines and brood-

ers has this advantage, that the birds are easily handled and caught. They are tame, and just for that reason more profitable. It is seldom that a flock of hens that get scared to death when a person comes near them is a great source of profit to the owner. It is so with other animals, too. The quiet cow that has no fear or expectation of kicks or blows is the profitable cow. My chicks and ducks and turkeys eat out of the hands of anybody who will offer them something good to eat. I can pick them up almost anywhere, and consequently there is no chasing and no searing. But sometimes turkeys or chicks have been brought up by their mothers away from the farm buildings, perhaps in woods or meadows, and consequently they are pretty wild in the fall. With a little tact and sense you can easily get them used to your presence, and by degrees tame them so they can be handled at will. Only be careful that you never scare them in the least. Birds have a good memory.

* * *

Turnips for Feed. Last fall I had much to say about the magnificent crop of turnips I harvested and put in my cellar and in pits for winter feeding. These roots did come very handy, and I believe much of my success in wintering stock, making butter, etc., was due to them. I fed as much as a half bushel a day to each cow, and never noticed the least turnip flavor in milk or butter. This year, owing to the dry fall, my turnips are pretty near a failure. And so are my late cabbages, cauliflower, etc. I can't grow fall crops without rain, unless I can irrigate them. Fortunately I have a fine crop of mangels and carrots, and therefore shall not miss the turnips as much as I otherwise would. I hardly think I can get the best results from my cows during winter without feeding some succulent roots. An interesting bulletin on "turnips" has just been issued by the Alabama agricultural experiment station. If any one among our readers wants it, write to the station at Auburn, Alabama, for a copy of Bulletin No. 84. T. GREINER.

SALIENT FARM NOTES.

Prepare for Snow. The frosty nights and chilly days warn us that winter, with its biting winds and drifting snows, is not far away, and many will wake up some morning ere long and find the yards buried under snow, together with doubletrees, neck-yokes, chains and dozens of other things which will be needed badly before spring. If the yard has not already been cleaned up, it will pay to stop all other work and attend to it right now. Put doubletrees, neck-yokes, clevises, chains and all things of that sort under cover, and see that they are kept there, and you will not only know just where they are, but will also be able to put your hand on them when wanted.

All boards, poles, rails, posts, etc., should be gathered together and piled up where snow is not likely to drift on them. Very often in winter a board, or a piece of one, is needed to repair a fence, and it is gratifying to know just where they are. It is a good idea to utilize all spare boards for wind-breaks. Tack them up on the west and north sides of yards and pens; they are better there than lying on the ground, and will do some good.

* * *

Waste for Fuel. While you are cleaning up the yard a large quantity of cobs, chips and scraps of boards, etc., will be found. Why not gather up all this material and pile it where it can be used for fuel in the room or kitchen stove? I know a farmer who heats a sitting-room and two bedrooms with a large sheet-steel heater that has space enough inside to hold a bushel basketful of chips, cobs and other combustible trash. There is an opening in the top large enough to easily admit the stuff, and the draft can be regulated to make it burn fast or slow. He says a basketful will keep the rooms warm a whole evening, and often half the night, and what is raked up in the feeding-pens and gathered about the place is sufficient to run this heater most of the winter.

There is no sense in allowing all this material to go to waste when it may so easily be gathered up and utilized.

Farmers have been economizing pretty closely the past three or four years, yet there are tons of fuel going to waste on the farms every year which, if utilized, would effect a great saving in the aggregate. One farmer to whom I mentioned this matter said: "Oh, that is getting too near flint-skinning! It is all right to economize reasonably, but I'm not going to rake the cobs out of the pig-lots and gather up the chips about the yards just to save a load or two of coal!"

That man's yard is a wilderness of litter and weeds, and his feed-lots look like cob-bins in summer and mud-puddles in winter. What is worse, he is paying interest on several thousand dollars and has paid none of the principal for over six years.

* * *

Repair the Yard Fences. Before the blizzards come it is a good idea to repair the fences

about the cattle-yards and the pig-lots. Doubtless some of the posts are rotted off, or nearly so, and others should be set beside them before the ground freezes. Nail on the loose boards, and see if the gates, hinges and all are in good condition. Both cattle and horses are especially frisky in winter, and if there is a weak spot in the fence or gate they will find it. Once allow a young animal to learn that fences can be broken and you have breachy stock and endless trouble on your hands from that time on, because one teaches another the trick and they remember it for years.

If you have to build new yard fences I think it will pay best to make them of wire. There are several good ones advertised in FARM AND FIRESIDE. If these wire fences are thoroughly well stapled to good posts they will last many years without needing any repairs. They have no barbs to injure stock, animals cannot get their heads through them, and the wind cannot blow them down. Have the wires near enough together, especially near the bottom, and have the fence high enough and the posts not over ten feet apart.

* * *

Patch Up the Sheds. Look over the stables, sheds and

poultry-houses and batten up the chinks and knot-holes. You will find many nails partly drawn out, if the shed is old. Drive them in, and add another or two to make the boards secure. If the poultry-house is made of rough boards and not very warm, I would cover it—the west and north sides especially—with some good roofing-paper. Fasten it on securely by means of barbed nails and tin caps, or lath placed ten to fifteen inches apart. This roofing-paper is the best thing I know of for shutting out blizzards. These hard, piercing winds will find every tiny chink in a board and go through, chilling the fowls and quickly stopping all egg-laying. It is a very difficult matter to prevent the combs and wattles from being frozen in a house made of boards, but if it is protected on the north and west sides with a covering of a good roofing-paper, and a fair number of fowls are kept in it, the temperature will rarely get so low as to injure them in any way.

If you are wintering a lot of young pigs, or have your sows farrow early next year, they should be kept in sheds covered with building-paper. If the roof is tight it is not necessary to cover that, but the walls should be made wind-proof. Good two-ply roofing-paper or felt costs me four fifths of a cent a square foot. When these are used for an outer covering the building may be constructed of the cheapest lumber obtainable. Poultrymen are divided in opinion as to whether it is best to put the paper on the outside or inside of poultry-houses. I prefer to use good two-ply paper and put it on the outside; and it must be put on the outside of pig-sheds or they will tear it off. FRED GRUNDY.

BEET-SUGAR INDUSTRY.

For awhile it was thought that the advanced price of wheat and other farm products would lessen interest in sugar-beet culture. But the movement for this promising industry is stronger to-day than ever. A number of new factories are being built, and many more are projected. The analyses of beets, as far as made, from experiment plots, have been quite satisfactory, and the establishment of factories is being earnestly considered in many localities.

Our Farm.

FARM THEORY AND PRACTICE.

BRACKETED BINDWEED.—A La Porte, Ind., reader of FARM AND FIRESIDE writes: "I have a field of good land that is rendered almost valueless by being set with wild morning-glory vines. What is the most effectual way of banishing them? Some say that I can never rid the land of the pest. Is this a fact?" Common bindweed is often mistaken for morning-glory, and as the inquirer says that the ground is covered with long, white roots when broken, the weed is probably bracted bindweed. The latter is a perennial, spreading by means of these white underground stems, while the morning-glory is an annual, being propagated from the seed. Both weeds are serious pests on tens of thousands of acres in the fertile valley of the Ohio and its tributaries, but the bindweed, being a perennial, and spreading by means of this mass of white stems, is by far the worst. Many years ago I have planted fields so foul with bindweed that a few wet days would make the matter of cultivation of crop appear hopeless, and have learned by experience that the pest can be kept under control, and in some cases wholly eradicated.

TRY A MIDSUMMER FALLOW.—As the field under consideration is "almost valueless" in its present condition, the loss of crop for one season will not be important. I therefore suggest that rye should have been sown this fall, and it should then be plowed under when just in bloom next May. The rye adds fertility, dries out the soil in which it grows, and when turned under by use of a chain keeps the furrows above it dried out. The ground should be left rough, so that moisture cannot rise. If soaking rains do not compact the soil too much, this single plowing will kill out the mass of white "roots," or stems. In one field I have been thus fortunate. If rains moisten the furrows

method would be less expensive than the scheme of green manuring and summer fallow, but I have preferred the latter, as it benefits my clayey ground mechanically and increases succeeding crops. The only danger is that wet weather may help out the vines; but in this respect I have been fortunate.

TIMOTHY SOD FOR POTATOES.—It is generally known that a timothy sod is not desirable for potatoes, and I believe that one chief reason for its failure to suit potatoes is its compact, tough nature when freshly broken. When rotten it does better, and for this reason a heavy grass sod should be broken in the fall if potatoes are to be planted. When there is manure for the ground, it can be scattered on the freshly broken sod, and rye should be sown to add humus and fertility and save all that is available in the soil. When the rye is plowed under in the spring, the rotted sod comes to the surface, and potatoes can be planted in good condition. A very few bushels of increase in crop pays for all the extra labor. A good clover sod is preferable all the time, but this suggestion is for those who feel compelled to plant a patch of potatoes on a grass sod. If it is heavy, get it rotted somewhat before planting-time.

FRESH SOD FOR CORN.—We have few cultivated plants that are grosser feeders than Indian corn. It neither needs nor wants thoroughly rotted manure of any kind, but thrives best on organic matter when fermenting, provided moisture be abundant. Corn requires heat, and a rotting sod raises the temperature of the soil. Medium early spring plowing, so that moisture is assured, and early planting of corn afford the best chance for a crop.

SHAPE OF MOLD-BOARDS.—For fall plowing, when the action of frost and heat is required to ameliorate the mechanical condition of the soil, a quite straight mold-board on the breaking-plow does the best work. The furrow is left well on its

catalpas, the varieties of cornus, laburnums, fern-leaved beech, flowering ash, magnolias, maidenhair and Chinese cypress are most desirable. As most of the sorts mentioned have some peculiarity of foliage or shade of color, it will be necessary in most cases to pay some attention to the location of planting so that the attractions of one will not be overshadowed by those of the others; a rather full description of each is therefore given.

If planters of ornamental trees, or any tree for that matter, would only stop to consider that he is beginning a work which will show results only in after years, fewer crooked and half-dead trees gathered from nursery culls or the woods, because they cost little or nothing, would be planted. It is true that the trees here mentioned cost on an average over a dollar each, but the price is for well-grown, strong, straight trees worth four times the price asked for them in comparison with the poor saplings so often planted.

The varieties here named are most of them extremely hardy, and simply require ordinary care in planting to produce the best results.

Fagus purpurea (purple beech). One of our choicest lawn-trees; it grows in pyramid form and most regular in habit; the foliage is a rich, reddish purple, and retains its color at all times.

Betula pendula laciniata (cut-leaved weeping-birch). Has graceful, drooping branches with light, delicately cut foliage; bark pure white. A most desirable lawn-tree and a harmonious contrast to the purple beech.

Fraxinus ornus (flowering ash). Foliage like that of the well-known American ash. The tree grows only to a medium height, and in June bears fringe-like flowers in large clusters at the ends of the branches.

Catalpa aurea. One of the best of the catalpas for the lawn. The tree is small, with large heart-shaped leaves, having a decided golden tinge on the young foliage and later on the second growth in autumn.

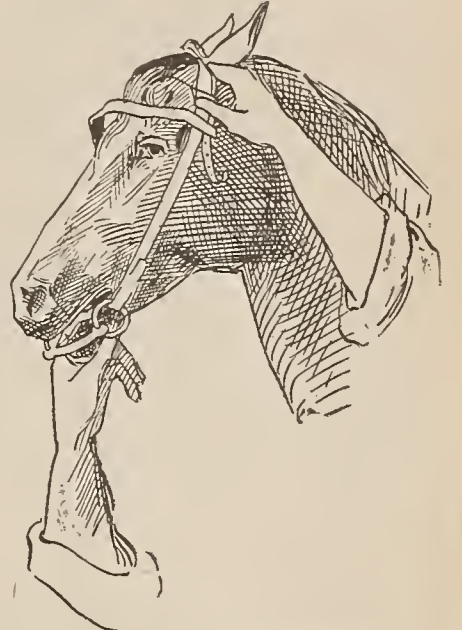
Cornus (dogwood). Most readers are familiar with the white dogwood. *Cornus Florida*, but may not know the red-flowering sort, *Cornus flore rubro*, or the weeping-dogwood, *Cornus pendula*. The red-flowering dogwood begins to bloom

trees. Leaves delicate in growth and hang like miniature tassels; the tree is compact in habit and easily grown. The peculiar shade of the foliage, light pea-green, adds to the attractiveness of the tree.

GEO. R. KNAPP.

BREAKING A COLT TO TAKE THE BIT.

Last spring I had occasion to notice a queer freak of animal disposition. While breaking a three-year-old colt I began to flatter myself of the complete success, when all at once he became obstinate in taking the bit. This notion grew upon



BREAKING A COLT TO TAKE THE BIT.

him in such a way that in a short time it was almost impossible to bridle him. Although of uncommonly gentle and docile disposition, and willing to be taught anything required of him, he would raise his head and close his teeth whenever he saw anybody approach him with the bridle. After trying all sorts of manipulations without avail, I happened at one of these unpleasant undertakings to put my hand in the corner of his mouth, laying the ends of my fingers on his tongue. This induced him to open his mouth, and improving this opportunity, I slipped the bit into his mouth. After that, whenever the colt had to be bridled, I proceeded as the illustration explains.

Hold the bridle with the right hand up to its proper place for bridling; let the left hand enter his mouth, while the bit rests on the back of the hand near the wrist, and as soon as his mouth opens, draw the bit gently into his mouth by slipping the head-stall over his head.

A few such operations, not more than four or five, broke my colt completely; he would not only take the bit willingly, but he would come toward you with his mouth wide open ready to be bridled.

G. C. GREINER.

STABLE PLAN OF STOCK-BARN.

The accompanying cut shows the stable plan of a stock-barn built by Mr. C. S. Hunter, of Butler county, Ohio. The barn stands north and south, sheltering the barn-yard on the east side. The driveways on the west side lead from the bank to the upper floor. The arrangement of stalls, pens, passageways, etc., is clearly explained by the cut.

Chronic Catarrh

Cannot be Cured by Local Applications—Eradicate the Cause.

It is a constitutional disease, and requires a constitutional remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla, which, working through the blood, eradicates the impurity which causes and promotes the disease, and soon effects a permanent cure. At the same time Hood's Sarsaparilla builds up the whole system and gives new life. Catarrh is just as surely

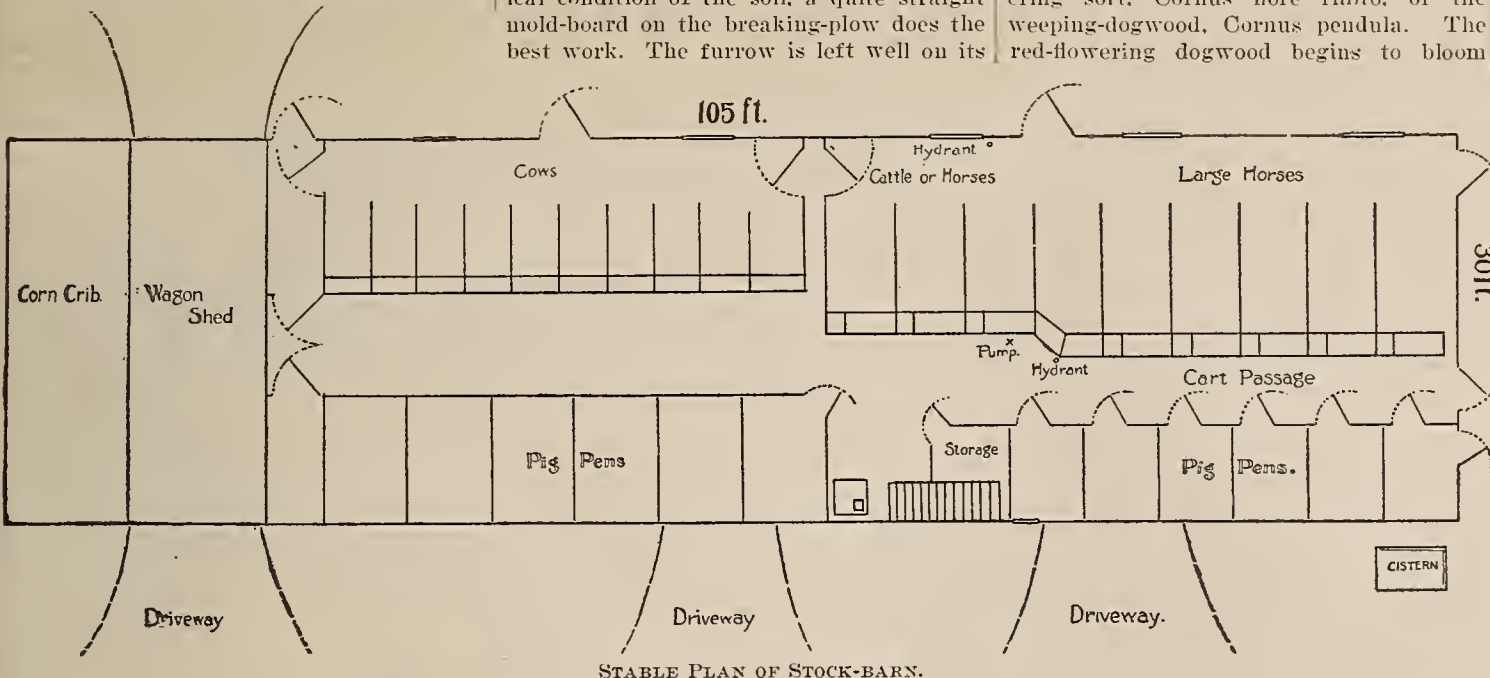
A Disease of the Blood

as is scrofula. So say the best authorities. How foolish it is, then, to expect a cure from snuffs, inhalants, etc. The sensible course is to purify your blood by taking the best blood purifier, Hood's Sarsaparilla. In a multitude of cases catarrh has been permanently cured by thoroughly purifying the blood with

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The Best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5.

Hood's Pills cure Liver ills, easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.



STABLE PLAN OF STOCK-BARN.

sufficiently to keep the roots from withering up, replot the ground during a dry spell in midsummer. This green rye will have rotted to a considerable extent if there is moisture. If the ground is cloddy and the weather remains dry a short time, this second plowing catches the roots that survived the first exposure to sun and lack of moisture. Then prepare the ground for wheat, or seed to rye again, to be plowed under in the spring for corn. Unless the season is wet, or the rains most untimely for the work in hand, this one summer's work should practically exterminate the worst weed pest of which I have knowledge, while adding largely to the store of available plant-food in the soil.

PASTURE HOGS IN THE FIELD.—Cultivation of the soil when moist only increases the growth of common bindweed. It breaks the white stems, and each piece sends up a vine. Burning out these roots by breaking the ground when dry, and leaving it in clods, so that the hot air robs the soil of all its moisture, is the only effective means I have tried. From observation I believe that pasturing hogs for one or two seasons in an infested field will kill out these vines. Hogs are very fond of the underground stems. This

edge, and is not made to crumble. The unevenness of the surface increases its exposure to the elements, and there is less packing in an open winter. In spring plowing another object is sought. The soil then needs fining, a good seed-bed being wanted. The crooked mold-board pulverizes much better than the straight one, causing the soil particles to grind against each other. It draws harder than the straight form, but that is due to the fact that it is doing more and better work.

DAVID.

TREES FOR THE LAWN.

Many people who seek to beautify their lawns by the planting of trees and shrubbery make the mistake of selecting the same varieties of trees that are used as street shade-trees, or else they choose sorts ornamental in themselves but unsuited to the lawn by reason of the dropping of unsightly seed-pods or fruit. The horse-chestnut and mulberry are illustrations of this class.

Trees growing to a considerable height, like maples, elms, poplars, etc., are not desirable lawn-trees, unless the grounds are very spacious or unless it is intended to have but one or two trees on the grounds.

For the lawn of ordinary dimensions such trees as purple beech, cut-leaf birch,

when quite young, and remains in bloom a long time; the flowers are whitish, suffused with bright red, and as the tree grows older the flowers seem to be of a darker red. The weeping-dogwood is becoming very popular, as it deserves to be; the tree is strikingly handsome, and is a novelty among weeping-trees, in that its central shoot grows erect, the side branches only being pendulous.

Cytisus laburnum (laburnum, or golden-chain). A beautiful small tree with trifoliate leaves and long, drooping clusters of beautiful golden-yellow flowers in May or June.

Fagus heterophylla (fern-leaved beech). In habit this tree is round, having delicate, fern-like foliage, the young shoots growing like tendrils, giving a most curious yet attractive appearance to the tree.

While many of the magnolias are hardy in the North, perhaps *Magnolia tripetala* (umbrella-tree) can best be recommended for general planting. It is hardy, grows only to a medium height, has enormous leaves, and in June bears in profusion beautiful large white flowers.

Salisburia adiantifolia (maidenhair-tree). A beautiful lawn-tree; grows rapidly, and has pretty fern-like foliage of a pretty shade of green.

Taxodium siensis pendula (Chinese cypress). One of the most beautiful lawn-

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES.—A writer in one of my exchanges speaks of flowers among the vegetables. It is a subject that appeals to the sympathies of many of us. Why shall we not please the women-folks and the children, and the visitors of the place, too, by having some gay colors among our green things in the garden, some flowers interspersed with our beans, tomatoes and cabbages, and some more agreeable fragrance than that of onion and leek or of the tomato-plant? For a number of years now I have made it my practice to have a small part of my Lima-bean trellis covered with morning-glories. The ground here, under this particular portion of the trellis, is almost "filled" with the seeds of this popular annual, for year after year the pods have been allowed to ripen and shed their seeds, so that I had more trouble to keep the surplus plants rooted out than to get a stand of plants established. Indeed, I think I will have to use greater care thereafter to prevent this shedding of seeds, as the plants spring up all around like weeds. But what a sight is such a trellis in the morning when covered with the beautiful wide-open flowers!

THE JAPANESE MORNING-GLORIES.—For two years I have taken particular pains with the new Japanese sorts of morning-glory. A year ago I planted them in open ground; the plants came up slowly and weakly, and I failed to see a single blossom on them. Last spring I started the plants in pots in the greenhouse. Again they came up rather reluctantly, but finally made some fairly good growth. In due time they were set in open ground, and with much coaxing and nursing I succeeded in getting them well up to the trellis. While the ordinary morning-glories side by side with them were covered with blossoms and glory right along, the Japanese did not give a single blossom until only a few weeks before frost made an end again of all the glory. There is a material difference in the shape of the leaf of the two kinds, that of the Japanese sorts being three-lobed, but in the bloom I have been disappointed. I could not find that this was more brilliant or in other ways superior to that of the ordinary kinds. Unless another year's experience shall give different results, especially in showing us that fine bloom of which the catalogues and some of our agricultural papers speak, I shall arrive at the conclusion that the game is not worth the powder.

SWEET-PEAS.—Another annual that I do not like to miss in the garden is the sweet-pea. I always try to have a row or a little patch in some odd corner, and I am sure our people enjoy having this flower as much as any other on the place, or as any which I might select. The sweet-pea is the flower that you will find as a



FIG. 1.

decoration on our table at every meal during many months, and just the flower that makes the bulk of many bouquets, and which our children carry pinned to their garments when going to school. Burpee's Cupid, the new dwarf pea, which I planted with such high expectations only to be sorely disappointed for a season or two, has finally shown its true worth, and proved once more that frequently it takes years of trial before one can come to definite and final conclusions concerning the real value of a new vegetable, fruit or flower. Some plants which I had on a greenhouse bench, along one side and pretty much out of the way, have given us a perfect wealth of those large, perfectly white and deliciously fragrant blossoms almost all winter long. I shall not fail to have them again.

LOW-GROWING ANNUALS.—The flowers mixed in with vegetables in open ground

consist chiefly of the climbers or semi-climbers mentioned. The low-growing annuals I prefer to have massed by themselves in beds on the lawn or along borders. For gay colors nothing can much exceed the phloxes and verbenas. The former may be sown in open ground, but I prefer to start the latter under glass and transplant them to the open. I aim to get them to bloom as early as possible; then by furnishing water and (if need be) liquid manures, I will have a brilliant display of colors until severe frost. Next to the phlox and verbenas I value ten-weeks-stock and aster most highly, the former as well for its delicate beauty as for its delicate fragrance. I usually start the aster under glass in order to have spray potted plants ready to go out in open ground by the first of June. Some of the aster varieties, as the Comet, Peony, Flowered Perfection, Victoria, German Emperor, Dwarf Bouquet, etc., are wondrously beautiful, but unfortunately they take a long time to come into bloom, and usually we can enjoy them only for a few weeks in the fall.

KEEPING LATE CABBAGES.—The first thing to do in order to store cabbages for winter and spring use is to raise the



FIG. 2.

cabbages. In this many of us made pretty near a failure this year, and it is ten to one that cabbages will be in good demand and bring good prices right along from now until spring. So it will be wise for all who have succeeded in growing the cabbages to take good care of them. I have heretofore piled a lot of cabbages cut from the stump in a conical heap (Fig. 1), right in the field, and covered them with clusters of the outer leaves cut off with a piece of the stump. The leaves carefully placed over the heap in shingle fashion, so as to shed water. Cabbages thus piled up and covered may be left out until real winter weather sets in. But I find that slugs and earthworms frequently infest the cabbages thus stored and do a good deal of damage. It might be well to place a solid floor of lime or salt upon the ground, and then pack the cabbages upon this. If to be left out after severe freezing has set in, you should put additional covering, such as straw, corn-stalks or marsh hay, over the whole heap. Mr. Burpee's little book, "Cabbage and Cauliflower for Profit," written by the noted cabbage-grower, Mr. J. M. Lupton (about 120 pp., price 50 cents), suggests the following plan for early winter sales: "Take the cabbages up with the roots on, and store in well-ventilated cellars where they will keep till mid-winter. Or stack them in some sheltered position about the barn, placing one above the other in tiers, with the roots inside, and covering deeply with seaweed; or if this cannot be obtained, something like corn-stalks may be used to keep them from the weather as much as possible (Fig. 2). When thus stored, they may be obtained any time during the winter when prices are favorable.

T. GREINER.

ORCHARD AND SMALL FRUITS.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Pear-blight.—J. W., Canon City, Col. I know of no fruit that will do well in your section, other than pears, that can be grafted on the pear. It seems to me that if the varieties of pear you now have blight badly, there may yet be other kinds that will do well, and you should try them before giving up. If you will let me know what varieties have blighted with you, I can tell you if they are the kinds that resist this disease.

Propagating the Fig.—W. D. L., Samtut, Fla. Figs are propagated by layers and by cuttings, and root very easily. The layers

may be made at any time of the year. The cuttings should consist of new growth cut just below a bud, and treated the same as grape cuttings. They had best be made in the fall, but may be made in spring. They should be removed to permanent quarters when one or two years old, but some growers prefer to plant the cuttings where the trees are to remain permanently. In this latter case several cuttings should be put in in each place and all removed but one as soon as well started.

Young Apple-trees.—C. H. W., Sewell, W. Va. In my opinion it makes very little difference in buying trees for planting in your section, where all apple-stocks are hardy, whether they are grown by crown-grafting or piece-root grafting. The only thing I should regard would be the condition of the trees. I should insist on having them thrifty, vigorous and free from insects and disease. These are points of great importance. The way they became thrifty, that is, the grafting, etc., is of comparatively little significance. I should prefer to get trees from a near-by nursery, provided always I could get first-class stock. I would rather get trees from different soil than to plant those not all right from near-by nurseries.

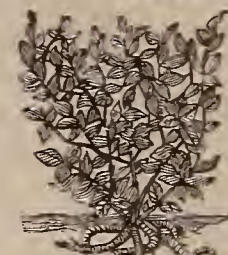
Gum on Plum-trees.—I. P., Wilkinsburg, Pa. The gumming of your plum-trees is probably due to the work of some borer, probably the larvae of the Scolytus. Peach-trees are especially susceptible to injury from this bark-beetle, and the gummy oozings from the many little holes to which you refer seems to weaken them so rapidly that they succumb in a short time. This insect is most liable to attack plum or peach trees that are weak, and vigorous trees are seldom infested by it, so that a preventive measure would be to keep the trees growing thriftily. In your case I fear the trees will be pretty sure to die, as they are undoubtedly very badly infested, and I think they should be cut down and burned, since so many of the beetles will breed in them that they will be a standing menace to surrounding trees. Where a healthy tree is slightly infested the trunk should be kept covered with whitewash to which Paris green has been added, and should be stimulated by means of fertilizers and good cultivation.

Fall or Spring Planting—Grease on Trees—Time to Prune—Moving Trees—Triumph Peach—Splendid Strawberry.—J. W. H., Hall's Summit, Kan., writes: "I wish to set out some peach-trees, and would like to know if it is advisable to set them out in the fall.—Cotton-tail and jack-rabbits are getting very numerous and destructive here. Last winter they injured and killed large trees, fifteen to twenty years old, young hedge-plants, etc. In February I found they were seriously damaging young peach and apple trees to which wheel-grease had been applied in November, and I had to make another application to stop their ravages. Please give what you consider the most desirable preparation or method for such purposes.—It is generally said that the best time for pruning is in the spring, just before the buds begin to swell. Often sickness, bad weather or hurry of spring work interferes and it does not get done at all. I should like to know if there is any good reason against pruning in November, December or January, when there is more time to attend to it, and in this climate the weather is generally more suitable and the ground dry.—I set out about sixty valuable peach-trees in the spring of 1896. They were in poor condition when received, not half of them grew, and those that did live made very little growth. There are so many gaps that I would like to move the remaining trees into a more compact form. Would it be safe to move those trees this fall or next spring? They are not very large.—Is the 'Triumph' peach free or cling? Is the 'Chairs Choice' peach a free bearer?—Has the 'Splendid' strawberry perfect blossoms?"

REPLY:—As a rule spring is the best time to set peach-trees, but they may be safely planted in the fall, if after being planted they are laid flat on the ground and covered with earth. I do not think it necessary to water if the trees are all covered with soil as recommended.—I do not think the linseed-oil liable to injure the bark of trees, but I prefer to use Portland cement, made of the consistency of common paint, to which has been added a small amount of Paris green or other poison. Common whitewash and soft soap, to which has been added Paris green, is also good, and if a little plaster of Paris or Portland cement is added to it, it will adhere better. Carbolic acid, enough to make the wash smell strong, is also good in it.—Pruning can be safely done in November, or during mild weather in winter, but extra care should be taken to cover all the larger wounds with a coat of thick paint or the cut branches will often die back.—If the trees are covered as recommended, I think it perfectly safe to transplant them this fall, but they should be pruned back severely. The covering of the whole tree when it is laid on the ground is a small matter, and they are then safe against injury from rabbits and mice as well as from the weather.—The "Triumph" peach is a freestone with small pit. "Chairs Choice" peach is not generally a heavy bearer, but is popular in some sections.—The "Splendid" strawberry is a perfect-flowering sort.

A New Botanical Discovery.

The Wonderful Kava-Kava Shrub.—Of Special Interest to Sufferers from Diseases of the Kidneys or Bladder, Rheumatism, etc.—A Blessing to humanity.



A Free Gift of Great Value to You.

A short time ago readers were informed of the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub, a new botanical product, of wonderful power in curing certain diseases. The Kava-Kava Shrub, or as botanists call it, *Piper Methy sticum*, grows on the banks of the Ganges river, East India, and probably was used for centuries by the natives before its extraordinary properties became known to civilization through Christian missionaries. In this respect it resembles the discovery of quinine from the Peruvian bark, made known by the Indians to early Christian missionaries in South America, and by them brought to Europe.

All physicians regard Diseases of the Kidneys as among the most fatal and dangerous that afflict mankind. These are most dangerous when the Uric acid and other impurities form poisons in the blood, which cause Rheumatism, Gout, etc. Hence the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub—Nature's Positive Specific Cure for Diseases of the Kidneys and Rheumatic Maladies—is welcomed as a gift to suffering humanity, and its medical compound, Alkavis, endorsed by the Hospitals and Physicians of Europe and America.

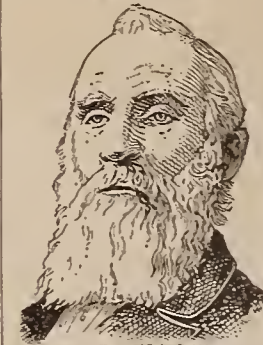
The celebrated physician, Dr. J. M. S. Thomas, testifies that in a few weeks he cured four severe cases of advanced Bright's Disease by the use of Alkavis, and he writes, "I have fully tested the medical value of the Kava-Kava Shrub in Kidney, Bladder and Urinary disorders, as well as in Rheumatism and Dropsical Effusions, with the most remarkable and satisfactory success."

It gives us pleasure to lay before the public the accounts of this great discovery and the testimony of Sufferers who have been cured thereby.

Rev. W. B. Moore, D.D., of Washington D. C., Editor of the "Religious World," writes of his wonderful cure by Alkavis. He says:

"For several years I was a sufferer from Kidney troubles, and could obtain no relief from physicians. I used various Kidney remedies but with no success. I had given up all hopes of ever recovering my health, until hearing of the marvelous cures effected by your Alkavis, decided to try same. After taking the first bottle I began to experience relief, and following up the treatment was permanently cured. I cheerfully recommend your excellent Alkavis to persons afflicted with Kidney and Rheumatic disorders as the best remedy known."

The venerable Mr. Jos. W. Whitten, of Wolf-



Mr. Jos. W. Whitten.

horo, New Hampshire, at the age of eighty-five, gratefully writes of his cure of Dropsy, swelling of the feet, and Kidney and Bladder diseases by Alkavis. Hon. R. C. Wood, a prominent attorney of Lowell, Indiana, was cured of Chronic Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder disease of ten years' standing by Alkavis. Mr. Wood describes himself as being in constant misery, often compelled to rise ten times during the night on account of weakness of the bladder. He was treated by all the home physicians without the least benefit, and finally completely cured in a few weeks by Alkavis. The testimony is undoubted and really wonderful. Many ladies also join in testifying to the wonderful curative powers of Alkavis in Kidney and allied diseases, and other troublesome afflictions peculiar to womanhood, which cannot with propriety be described here. Among these may be included Mrs. Susan B. Castle, Poestenkill, N. Y.; Mrs. James Young, of Kent, O.; Mrs. Alice Evans, of Baltimore, Md.; Miss Mary A. Layman, of Neel, W. Va.; Mrs. Sarah Vunk, Edinboro, Pa.; and Mrs. L. E. Copeland, Elk River, Minn.

Professor D. C. Wester, the distinguished President of Arthur College, who is also a veteran of the late war, and Rev. Thomas M. Owen, of West Pawlet, Vt., write of the extraordinary effects of Alkavis in a few weeks in curing Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder disorders of twelve to fifteen years' standing. Such testimony makes it clear that the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub is indeed a blessing to suffering humanity.

Mr. J. R. Burke, of Clarendon, Arkansas, testifies to his cure of Bright's Disease by the wonderful power of Alkavis. He writes: "I desire to give credit to whom credit is due. In February, 1894, I was taken with Kidney trouble and my urine was of a very dark color and heavy brick dust deposits. I was confined to my room ten weeks with constant attention of two physicians, who at last pronounced my case Bright's Disease and incurable. I was advised by a friend to try Alkavis, which I did. I was able to work in the yard in a week, and now I am as well as I have been in five years."

While Alkavis is well-known in Europe, its only importers in this country so far are The Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 409 Fourth Avenue, New York. They are so anxious to introduce Alkavis and prove its great value that they will send free one Large Case of Alkavis, prepaid by mail, to Every Reader who suffers from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Cystitis, Gravel, Female Complaints and Irregularities, Dropsy, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. All readers should send their names and address to the company and receive the Large Case by mail free. To prove its wonderful curative power, it is sent to you entirely free.



Mrs. Castle, Poestenkill, N. Y.

Our Farm.

THE SEASON'S WORK—OVERCOMING DIFFICULTIES.

I HAD settled on certain methods which I thought I could rely upon to produce good crops every year, but this year's experience has shown me that there are some subjects to which I had not given due consideration. One is plant diseases. A very important question for the horticulturist is how to destroy the fungus that causes the leaf-blight. On some parts of my field last season the rust, or blight, shortened the crop of strawberries more than one half. The Warfields have made some money for me, but I think I shall have to give up growing them, because they rust so badly on my farm. I have talked with a man who last year lost several acres of Warfields by the blight. They were sprayed with Bordeaux mixture, and again with ammonia-water, but neither seemed to do very much good. I have noticed that strong, well-fed plants are much more able to withstand diseases. Where the soil was very rich and the plants irrigated the blight did but little damage. On gravelly places which did not hold manure and water so well the berries were hardly worth picking. My experience has taught me to plant varieties which have not yet shown indications of disease; to grow good, strong plants, and use the Bordeaux mixture for a preventive of disease, instead of a remedy.

Another subject I am studying concerns the soil, climate and culture that causes celery to run to seed-stalks worse in some sections or some years than in others. It has been my custom to sow the seed in a hotbed in March, and transplant to open ground early in May. With my plan of growing celery in very rich soil, for two or three years, I had had but very little celery go to seed. This year I sowed the seed of White Plume celery at the same time as usual—seed from the same package used last year—with the result that on some parts of the field more than one fourth produced seed-stalks. This question of celery making seed-stalks when sown early I have studied, and have also submitted it to some prominent horticulturists. From what I have learned I believe early celery can usually be prevented from producing seed by keeping it growing from the time the seeds germinate in the seed-bed until the plants are fully grown. If for the reason of a lack of moisture or food that part of the plant ceases to grow which produces the edible stalks, flowering stalks begin to develop. It is believed by some horticultural authorities that this can be avoided by forcing the growth of the plant early in the season with plenty of nitrogenous fertilizers. The plants should not be so crowded in the seed that they stop growing, but should be thinned if not transplanted when small, so that they will have room to grow; and if they stop growing after they are transplanted, because of a drought, water must be given them.

This year I had a large field of cabbages and cauliflowers. The prospect seemed good for a large and profitable crop, but just before they began to form heads they were attacked by the insect that causes the club-foot. I did some experimenting with lime-water, ashes, salt and strong commercial fertilizers, applying them separately on different parts of the field. Lime-water did but little good. If one can apply just the right quantity of salt around the roots of the plant to kill the insect without injuring the plant, it is a good remedy. It is not safe to use plants grown in infested soil, even if there is no appearance of an enlargement of the roots. It is difficult to cleanse the soil. Large applications of lime or salt may be beneficial for a time, but I think seeding the garden every few years to a grass crop is the better way.

This year I have learned the value of potash in making vegetables heavy and solid. Where a heavy dressing of ashes was applied the cabbages were heavier, and with less outside leaves. In former years I had made the mistake of using fertilizers for tomatoes containing too much nitrogen. I obtained a large growth of vines, but the tomatoes were late in ripening. I have found that a good fertilizer for tomatoes is ashes, which give tomatoes a fine color and the best quality. I have also noticed that the celery was

heavier and contained less hollow stalks where ashes were applied. I would not depend on ashes alone in growing cabbages and celery, for these crops cannot make a large growth without nitrogen; and it sometimes pays well to use nitrate of soda around plants that are not growing well. I never undertake to grow these vegetables without a heavy dressing of stable manure. W. H. JENKINS.

ECONOMY IN FEEDING.

Every one recognizes the need of economy. Many believe that this is the rule of their lives. Such people are endeavoring to accumulate all possible resources. Strange to say, the majority who pride themselves on their thrift fail in their intentions. The feeders of live stock, as a rule, do not fully master their work. The average farmer, for instance, rears a large number of hogs, and often feeds this stock nothing but corn in the way of grain during this entire life. A good number of swine-growers fail to consider right methods of building the framework of the hog. They do not realize that bone, muscle, sinew and other elements of the framework can be properly built only by feeding in right combination oats, bran, mineral matter and other grain equivalents during the first four or five months' growth of the swine. It is true that with abundance of grazing and mineral matter found in the hillsides fair success is realized in some cases. With the same favorable environments, right attention to proper grain material would lead to the realization of better results.

Method in one's work makes a large difference in results. Some men accomplish more by sitting down and marking out the plan of operations, devoting an hour each morning to this outline, than many others who devote every minute to "pushing their work." It is good policy to guard in every way to prevent disease in the swine herd. Great effort is necessary to check the plague in any form after it is begun among the swine. A variety of food administered according to the age and stage of growth of the hogs will do much to maintain good health. During the frosty weather of autumn and winter it is important to give much attention to the bedding of the pigs and other young things. Much of the so-called plague in the case of pigs is only the result of colds taken by exposure to drafts, or by emerging from a nest in a perspiring condition to the cold air. If possible, this sleeping-nest should be broken up into small apartments, permitting groups of not more than three in one place. By this precaution one will have less trouble at feeding-time in calling the hogs out of their warm apartments. The temperature of every animal will then be about normal, and each will come to its food with the usual relish.

A waste of feeding is often observed in too rich diet of corn, barley, rye, etc., for the horses, dry cows, brood-sows and ewes, and other stock not intended to be fattened during winter months. Where such store stock starts into winter in fair flesh, an abundance of roughage requires but little grain to support the animal frame in normal condition. At this season of the year all perishable foods that cannot be preserved against freezing until midwinter should be fed liberally, as a rule, to all classes of stock. However, in the case of all animals that are for any reason reduced in flesh it is economy to feed liberally during the autumn months to restore to a thrifty condition before the severe winter sets in.

It is a mistake to neglect any of the young things of the farm. At present the colts and calves call for extra care. Quality of rich food is not so much in order as the right sort of food and shelter. The cold rains and the early snow and exposure to the night air do more to retard growth than diminished food. Oats or barley mixed with bran, and this sweetened with a mite of oil-meal, and the addition of bright hay along with ensilage or its equivalent in roots, fruit or vegetables, in right combination, make a nice variety for young things.

M. A. R.

Farm and Fireside's Giant Almanac and Annual Reference Book (450 pages) will be ready for delivery during the first week of January, 1898. It will be an absolutely reliable authority on political, agricultural, commercial, financial, educational, religious and miscellaneous subjects and statistics in general. Price, with Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents. Send orders now. First come, first served.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM PENNSYLVANIA.—According to the report of the agricultural department of this state, by Secretary Edge, the wheat crop this year is fully 20,000,000 bushels. The net gain in value to the farmer of Pennsylvania by reason of the great advance in the price of wheat is simply enormous, and the effects will be felt in all channels of trade for a long time to come. The country storekeepers report a stimulus that had not been experienced for several years. The outlook is more encouraging than for a number of years past. The wide-awake farmer now has a chance to make a little extra money. It is safe to predict that farms will also bring better prices. The corn crop is barely an average crop. The clover-seed crop in this county (Bedford) is large this year, averaging from three to four bushels an acre, and of good quality. Sheep are scarce and in good demand. Young cattle scarce and high. W. F. B. Koontzville, Pa.

FROM NORTH DAKOTA.—This part of North Dakota offers inducements in the shape of good, cheap land on easy terms (one half of crop until paid for) to any sober, industrious man who is anxious to obtain a home of his own. Wheat is the principal crop raised here, and yields from ten to forty bushels an acre. The price is now 80 cents a bushel. So you see it does not take a man long to pay for one hundred and sixty acres at from \$3 to \$7 an acre. Garden-truck, potatoes and small fruits do well here. The largest, cleanest crop of potatoes I ever saw was raised here this year. There are two drawbacks (you will find drawbacks wherever you may go) in this place at present; namely, the long distance to market (I live sixteen miles from the nearest railroad station) and the scarcity of girls. Girls doing general household work receive from \$3 to \$4.50 a week, and the supply does not begin to equal the demand. Bachelors are numerous and anxious to marry. I speak from personal experience. A large number of the farmers here experimented with sugar-beets this summer, and the beets are now being tested at the Fargo Agricultural College. J. W. G. Crozier, Nelson county, N. D.

FROM FLORIDA.—Three to five crops follow each other in rapid succession. One man in our vicinity planted his twenty-acre farm last winter in lettuce, and shipped large quantities at paying prices. He then planted cucumbers and cabbages, which brought good returns. Then the land was fertilized and watermelons put in. As a side issue he raised nutmeg-melons, which sold readily by the crate at forty-five cents a dozen. The melons he did not sell were fed to the hogs, and the land plowed and planted to cow-peas, or, as we call them, "Dixie beans." Is that not a good showing? In addition he has his sugar-cane patch, his pindars (or peanuts), fruits of all kinds (even apples), chickens, pigs, goats, cows, bees and horses; he raises enough to feed without buying one dollar's worth. Doesn't that sound as though Florida is the farmer's paradise? As a home that gives everything in return for honest work, no state can equal Florida. Summer and winter it is equally pleasant, as we hope to prove to people in the next few years. We expect many homeseekers in the near future. Perhaps this letter may point the way for some reader to this wonderful state. A. J. R. Oxford, Sumter county, Fla.

FROM WASHINGTON.—Much has been heard recently concerning the gold-fields of the far North, but just listen now to a few words concerning the wheat-fields—veritable gold-fields—of the Washington and Oregon Klondike, where men—poor men some of them, too, for they are badly in debt—have in one season made so much more than many of the lucky gold-seekers of frozen Alaska. Wheat was a big crop this year, and added to a big crop was a big price, with a result that men who have never been known to have a dollar ahead have now several thousand dollars to their credit. Farmers who have been falling behind for several years, until the farm and stock were mortgaged, are by one season's crop set out of debt, free and independent men. Many large fields claim an average of fifty bushels of wheat to the acre, some even greater than this. One man not far from Walla Walla, Mr. Reaser, reported to have been in debt fifty-seven thousand dollars, is now said to be out of debt and three thousand ahead. Another farmer, Geo. Babcock, wheat king of the northwest, will clear seventy-five thousand dollars from this year's seeding. Since harvesting began the farm mortgages have been steadily canceled, until the Palouse and Walla Walla country, three months ago in debt to its ears, is now nearly clear from incumbrance. Umatilla county, Oregon, also reports wonderful gains, and an unofficial claim is made that eighty-five per cent of the farm mortgages of this county have been paid up since harvest. When I first came into this country a few years since I was disposed to discredit the almost fairy-like stories told me of the grain that meant so much gold, but I find there has been but little exaggeration, and this year the grain-fields of Washington and Oregon out rival the gold-fields of Alaska. Walla Walla, Wash. J. P. D.

500 FARMS FOR SALE AND TRADE. Sent 5 cents in Stamps for list and terms to JOSEPH POLLARD, Jr., Washington, Ia.

FOR SALE A good farm in two miles of the city of Talladega. For particulars address S. C. LOKEY, Talladega, Ala.

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One of the best farms in South Dakota. Two miles from station and market. 215 acres, 80 under cultivation; two-story frame house, large barn, tubber, running spring-water. A butter-maker could do exceptionally well, as there is a good home market. Eight hundred dollars down, balance on easy terms. No agents. Full particulars on addressing the owner, DR. J. S. TILDES, Peck-kill, N. Y.

"AMONG THE OZARKS"

The Land of Big Red Apples, is an attractive and interesting book, handsomely illustrated with views of South Missouri. It pertains to fruit-raising in that GREAT FRUIT BELT OF AMERICA, the southern slope of the Ozarks, and will prove of great value not only to fruit-growers, but to every farmer and homeseeker looking for a farm and a home. Mailed free. Address, J. E. LOCKWOOD, Kansas City, Mo.

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This tract of 10,000 acres extends from the railroad south to Lake Hancock, one of the most beautiful lakes in Florida, being about five miles long and two miles wide—abounding in choicest fish and the paradise of duck hunters. On each side of a grand boulevard, 130 feet wide, from the depot to Lake Hancock, are farms of twenty acres each, and all the balance of the tract forty-acre farms. These lands are beautifully located, being about 200 feet above the sea level and sloping gently south to the Lake. The soil is loamy, and will raise any kind of fruits, grapes, nuts, vegetables, tobacco, berries, as well as oranges, lemons and other semi-tropical fruits. Town Site.—Lots one acre each—no less—\$25 each, cash. Magnolia Ave.,—130 ft. wide—20 acre farms, \$10 to \$20 per acre; 40 acre tracts, \$5 to \$10 per acre; 1/4 cash, balance 1, 2 and 3 years. Send for maps and general information. International Homestead Co., 306 Marquette Bldg., Chicago, Ill., or 308 Franklin St., Tampa, Fla.

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Our Farm.

FRUIT CULTURE BY IRRIGATION.

THE new agriculture of the West comprises a very pronounced and improved innovation on the old systems of fruit culture. By the introduction of irrigation tree and vine culture is increased and fruits are made to produce in quality and quantity, according to the fancy of growers. The application of soil moisture and plant-food has been reduced to an exact science, and close students are able to handle this invention to their advantage. Many thousands of acres have been planted to deciduous fruit-trees in the middle of inter-mountain West during the past quarter of a century, and the immense citrus groves of semi-tropical districts are rapidly being recognized as the leading orange and lemon producers of the world. All this transformation from deserts to fruit land is the work of man in subduing aridity by the forces of modern irrigation.

Among the many great irrigation canals opening new fields for fruit culture in twenty arid states, that owned by the Pecos Irrigation and Improvement Company, in New Mexico, is the longest and most complete. This main waterway is one hundred and twenty-one miles in length, and has 1,200 miles of subsidiary or distributing canals. The water carried by this system will irrigate 400,000 acres. In Utah, the Bear river canal, costing over \$2,000,000, is expected to irrigate 250,000 acres. Colorado has many extensive systems, among them being the High Line canal, almost 100 miles in length and irrigating 90,000 acres. California has immense canals, the most important being the Kern county, 32 miles long, with a stream 80 feet wide, furnishing water for irrigating 270,000 acres. Canals of more or less importance have been built in all the western states and territories, converting worthless deserts into valuable orchards and vineyards.

The planting of an orchard or vineyard is an easy matter where a mountain stream has been diverted to the field, and moisture can be obtained at any time by raising the head-gates of canals. In many localities gravity canals cannot be obtained, and artesian wells furnish the water, thus making the orchardist more independent because of being his own rain-maker. The wild-sage land has been cleared, plowed, leveled, and planted to trees and vines in ninety days from beginning, and waterways have been constructed to every rootlet. The second year vines produce good grapes, and after four or five years orchard and vineyard begin to yield sufficient to pay dividends on the investment. An ordinary fruit-tree produces enough to sell for five dollars after a growth of six years. Vineyards in anything like suitable localities yield not less than ten pounds of grapes to the vine. When sold green, dried as raisins or made into wine, an acre of grapes is worth from \$300 to \$800 a year.

Fifteen years ago California oranges were almost unknown, and the now famous Riverside district shipped only fifteen car-loads of the fruit in a year. Now the oranges are sought in all markets of the world, and the annual output from Riverside is almost 3,000 car-loads. Other orange-producing sections show similar results, and the fruit-growing is but an infant industry. Six years ago the importations of primes reached 66,000,000 pounds annually, while the entire product of the United States was only 20,000 pounds. Now the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California produce more than former imports and find ready sale for all that can be placed on the market. Ten years ago the first fruit crops of Colorado were harvested. To-day there are hundreds of happy homes, surrounded by fruitful trees and vines yielding an approximate income of \$1,000 an acre yearly. Utah and Idaho have numerous orchards furnishing their owners with handsome bank accounts.

Irrigation supplies the tree and vine with life and vitality, and when plant-food is needed the surface ditches or sub-irrigation pipes deliver liquid fertilizers to stimulate fruit-bearing. The irrigated tree should never fail to produce excellent fruit and yield a good profit, because all its wants can be supplied by the power of man in controlling the irrigation forces.

JOEL SHOEMAKER.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

WATER AND CARE.

When hens do not lay no consideration is given for the cause. That at all seasons of the year the hens are producers is a point in their favor, but when they lay eggs in summer and give no returns in winter, it should be apparent that in the one case food is abundant, while in the other it must be provided. When one hears the expression, "My hens do not lay," it means that the fault is not so much with the hens as with their owner, for if food is abundant in summer the fowls may be overrun with lice. Vermin causes many failures, and so weaken the fowls that disease takes them off. When the hens are in a debilitated condition, but with every advantage apparently in their favor, so far as food is concerned, the owner must look after their quarters, or endeavor to try the effects of a change of diet (perhaps lessen the quantity), and also carefully observe if the fowls have water. It is a sad fact to relate that on many farms the hens do not have drinking-water (a necessary constituent of eggs); not that the farmer is too careless to supply it, but because it is perhaps everybody's business (or nobody's) to provide water, and it is overlooked. It is during the summer season that the hens give the larger profit: not because of winter eggs not paying, but the hens may not lay at all when the weather is severe, and thus produce no profit, while consuming more food. It is not necessary to feed heavily during the warm weather, as the hens are here and there helping themselves; but there are some details of management to observe, and though apparently such as are frequently overlooked, yet they are necessary to success, and among them is to keep the poultry-house clean and also to keep down lice.

PREPARING MIXED FOODS.

Mixed feed, such as a warm mess, is not always proper, but many use that method of feeding because it permits them to allow, in a convenient form, foods that cannot well be given in any other manner. For instance, take linseed-meal or middlings; there is no way to feed those substances to fowls except by moistening such, when a sticky mass results, which is anything but palatable to the fowls. If such food was fed in large quantities there would be a possibility of crop-bound. To make the mess better relished, bran and coarse corn-meal are added, which allows it to crumble and lessens its adhesiveness. Of course, the mixture of the several substances is more digestible than the first two mentioned. This fact is well known to all poultrymen; not that some of them are unaware of the digestibility of the mess, but because they cannot induce hens to consume the sticky substance. Now, if finely cut clover, hay or cooked turnips are added to the mixture, the materials will be even more divided and the digestibility increased, while the benefit derived will also be increased.

BREEDERS AND FARMERS.

Those who breed thoroughbred stock do not give as much attention to the matter of letting the farmers know what they have as they should, as it is sometimes difficult for farmers to learn from whom to procure pure breeds. It is not denied that breeders who have good records in the show-room parade the facts before other fanciers, in order to sell, but the farmers are the best customers and are more numerous. Remove the demand on the farms for better stock, and the business of the breeders would soon disappear. The farmers would improve more if the breeders were not negligent in making known the kind of stock they wish to sell.

ROOSTS AND LICE.

The practice of having the roosts over the nest-boxes is the common method, but it is admitted that this is done to save space more than for any other purpose. There should always be a sufficiency of room and the fowls will be more thrifty. The roosts should not be near the nest-boxes, as the combination makes the best of lice harbors. It is better to have the roosts in the middle of the house, away from the walls. A roost composed of poles fastened to four legs, each leg

set in a tin panful of kerosene, would serve as a protection against lice. The nests are usually the hatching-places for lice. No roosts for large fowls is an advantage, provided they rest on clean straw every night, the nests being outside. The position of the roosts has much to do with vermin and cleanliness, and in building a poultry-house some allowance must be made for the labor required to clean the house. Aim to separate the roosts from the nests and it will be less difficult to keep down lice and remove the droppings.

FRESH EGGS.

It is true that we import eggs, but not strictly fresh eggs (except along the Canadian border); the eggs brought into this country from beyond the Atlantic being used mostly in the arts. Fresh eggs are all that the term "fresh" implies, and they sell in the markets as separate articles from those that come from abroad. There is no limit to the demand for fresh eggs. They find buyers the whole year, and the American markets cannot be supplied from foreign countries.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Does Not Lay.—P. J., Appleton City, Mo., writes: "I have a bantam hen that goes on the nest, but does not lay."

REPLY:—The hen is very fat, and the remedy is to withhold food, except a spoonful of millet-seed daily, for awhile, so as to force her to scratch and become reduced in flesh.

Condition-powder.—R. G. B., Turner, Ill., writes: "Give me a formula for a cheap condition-powder for laying hens."

REPLY:—Linseed-meal, one pound; bone-meal, one pound; pulverized charcoal, half a pound; sulphur, salt, ground ginger, of each one ounce. Add a gill of the mixture to every pound of ground grain used.

Vertigo.—M. A. McR., Emmons, Kan., writes: "My chickens appear stupid, heads twisted around, being unable to pick the food, as if blind."

REPLY:—They are probably overfed, though the same symptoms occur if they eat maggots from decomposing carcasses. Keep them confined forty-eight hours with no food, adding a teaspoonful of tincture of nux vomica to half a gallon of the drinking-water.

Did you ever look at any of your outhouses and say to yourself: "Well, that's a pretty tough looking building." But it won't pay to shingle or clapboard it—costs too much. Too valuable to destroy. What is wanted is a cheap way to fix it up.

Rip off the old shingles, make the sides smooth, and cover with *Neponset Red Rope Fabric*. Treat the inside of the building with *Neponset Black Building Paper*, which is clean and odorless. Reset the broken window panes, and you have a snug building, as good for all practical purposes as though you had built it entirely new.

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TWO GREAT EGG MAKERS! Mann's Green Bone Cutter, Mann's Granite Crystal Grit will make hens lay lots of eggs. They prove the victory of science over guess-work. Success is certain. Hens lay twice the eggs when fed green bone and grit. **Mann's Bone Cutters** have a world-wide fame. Cash or instalment. Ill. catalogue free if name this paper. F. W. MANN CO., Milford, Mass.

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CHICAGO CORN SHELLER \$1. Send us one dollar and we will send you a corn sheller that will shell corn as well as the more expensive machines on the market. (Mention this paper.) Henion & Hubbell, 63-65 Fulton St. Chicago.

SCIENTIFIC GRINDING MILLS crush the corn husk, cob and all, and grind it into meal. Saves time, labor and money. For steam power—other styles for horses. Our prices will suit you. Write for them and free catalogue. FOOS MFG CO. Springfield, O.

VICTORY FEED MILL Grinds corn and cob and all kinds of small grain. Made in four sizes, for 2, 4, 8 and 10 horse power. Send for catalogue and prices. THOS. ROBERTS, Box 91, Springfield, Ohio.

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Asparagus Culture.—O. L., Avon, Mass. Request the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., to send you Farmers' Bulletin No. 61, "Asparagus Culture."

Cow-weaner.—L. L. Isle of Hope, Ga., writes: "The following is a sure cure for self-sucking cows: Mix red pepper with lard until it forms a dark brown salve, and apply it to the teats after milking."

Stable Manure for Garden.—Greenhorn, Birmingham, Ala., writes: "I am manuring land, which is rather poor, heavy clay loam, with horse manure mixed with sawdust. Is such manure, if in proper quantity, sufficient to grow cabbage, onions or Irish potatoes (with, of course, proper tillage) without the aid of any other fertilizer?"

REPLY BY T. GREINER:—Why, yes; when you have all the good horse manure that you want, why should you look for materials that are only manure substances? Horse manure is good enough in itself. Only give me enough of it.

Dealers in Fertilizing Materials.—J. T., Wayne county, Pa., asks for the addresses of dealers in tankage, in phosphoric acid, muriate of potash, etc.

REPLY BY T. GREINER:—Dealers in fertilizers and fertilizing materials advertise so persistently in agricultural journals that it should not be difficult to find their addresses. The German Kali Works, of New York, advertise their potash fertilizers in almost every issue of any paper. In place of tankage I would use dissolved bone or dissolved South Carolina rock for phosphoric acid, and nitrate of soda for nitrogen. A fertilizer having ten per cent of potash has enough of it for potatoes, and may be used at the rate of 800 to 1,200 pounds an acre.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Abortion.—G. W. D., South Prairie, Wis. A cow which has aborted (lost her calf) two years in succession cannot any more be considered a reliable breeder, for the probability exists that the same thing will happen again.

Crural Paralysis.—H. R., Sinsinawa, Wis. Your veterinarian, it seems, is right, and your horse is suffering from crural paralysis, but if so the seat of the disease is much more in the crural nerve than in the muscles. The latter are inactive simply because the nerve is not able to perform its functions. There is a prospect that the horse will ultimately recover, but it may take a year or even longer. Medication can do no good. The best that can be done is to give the animal sufficient quantities of nutritious food and all the voluntary exercise the same is willing to take. If, however, no improvement whatever is observable, the prospect of recovery is rather a slim one.

Spavin and Ringbone.—J. P. S., Downing, Wis., and others. Spavin and ringbone are specific, and pathologically considered, identical diseases of the articular cartilages, bones and ligaments of the hock-joint and the phalangeal-joints respectively, and only differ in regard to their seat. Their causes, like those of many other diseases, must be divided in predisposing and exciting causes. While the former are well enough known to be consisting in an unequal distribution of weight and concussion upon the different parts of the joint, either in consequence of abnormal weakness, defective mechanical proportions, or some acquired defect produced, for instance, by unsuitable shoeing or some other cause likewise bringing about overburdening of certain parts, the latter, probably of a specific nature, have not yet been definitely ascertained. Like in many other diseases, it may be said the more developed the former, or what is the same, the more defective the formation of the joint, and consequently the more unequal the distribution of weight and concussion, the weaker need to be the latter, and vice versa. At any rate, I have never seen a case of spavin or ringbone making its appearance in a strong and in every respect well-proportioned joint. Therefore, I consider it safe to say that where the predisposing causes do not exist the exciting causes are powerless, while on the other hand it is seldom that a horse with very defective hock-joints, if living to mature age and required to do considerable work, remains free from spavin, or one with weak and badly proportioned phalangeal, but especially coronet, joints remains free from ringbone. The hock-joint is very complicated, composed of really four single joints, and in a horse is made up of six or seven single bones and numerous ligaments, or if the lower end of the tibia and the upper ends of the metatarsal bones are counted in, of ten or eleven. These bones, as already mentioned, are connected in such a way as to form four joints and present eight cartilage-coated articular surfaces. The upper one of these joints constitutes a perfect hinge-joint, in which nearly all the bending and stretching (the flexion and extension) of the hock is taking place. The three single joints immediately below, but especially the two lowest ones, having nearly

flat articular surfaces, are only semi-movable, and therefore come hardly into action in the flexing and stretching movements of the hock, and as joints can be spared without any perceptible effect upon the movement of the animal. Their office, it seems, is to increase the elasticity and to break the concussion. The three phalangeal-joints, the pastern-joint between the lower end of the metatarsus, or metacarpus, and the first phalanx or pastern bone, the coronet-joint between the first and second phalanges or between the pastern and the coronet bone, and the hoof-joint between the second and third phalanges, or between the coronet and the hoof bone, too, are essentially hinge-joints, but nearly all the bending and stretching takes place in the pastern-joint and in the hoof-joint, and but very little in the coronet-joint, which, to a certain extent, presents the character of a semi-movable joint, so that it may be made immovable without much influence upon the gait, or movement, of the animal, notwithstanding that an intact coronet-joint considerably breaks the concussion and increases the elasticity. If these facts are kept in mind the following will be easily understood. In lameness producing spavin and ringbone the morbid process invariably attacks the normally smooth and cartilage-coated articular surface of the diseased bones, in which it produces degeneration and destruction, first in the cartilaginous coating and then in the bone tissues beneath, and thus causes the formerly smooth and frictionless surface to become inelastic and rough. Although the movement in a semi-movable joint is but very slight, it is yet sufficient to cause painful friction between the diseased and roughened articular surfaces, and this, together with the weight and concussion necessarily also producing pain, it seems constitutes the immediate cause of the lameness. If any friction between the diseased articular surfaces is prevented by making any movement and consequently any friction impossible, no more pain will be increased and the lameness will cease. Consequently, the treatment (cure of the lameness) of spavin and ringbone consists in making the diseased joints immovable; or, in other words, in producing immobility, or ankylosis, of the affected joint or joints. As this cannot be done in any joint like the upper single joint in the hock, or in the upper (the pastern), and the lower (the hoof-joint) of the three phalangeal-joints, as stiffness in any of them would make the animal a worthless cripple, but only in the lower or semi-movable joints of the hock, and the middle phalangeal or coronet joint, which also permits but slight movement and can be spared, the lameness caused by spavin and ringbone cannot be removed if the morbid process of the former extends to the two upper joints of the hock, or that of the latter to either the pastern or the hoof joint. All that can be done in cases of spavin and ringbone is to remove the lameness, because a restoration of the morbidly changed and partly destroyed cartilage and bone to a normal and healthy condition is out of the question. If ankylosis is to be produced, two things are necessary; namely, a moderate degree of inflammation in the diseased parts, not severe enough to cause any destruction, but just sufficient to throw out the required exudates to effect first an agglutination of the diseased surfaces, and finally a firm union between the diseased bones, and also strict rest until such a firm union has been produced. If the latter cannot be given, or if the patient is a very nervous and restless animal, or if the same is constantly harassed by flies or in any other way, all attempts to produce ankylosis and in that way to remove the lameness will be in vain, because bones which are constantly moved cannot unite. Consequently, it is not advisable to undertake the treatment of spavin or ringbone unless strict rest to the diseased parts can be secured, and for that reason and no other I never undertake the treatment of these diseases during the "fly season," unless it be that arrangements can be made by which the flies can be kept away. Further, to secure the permanency of such a union (ankylosis) of the diseased bones, the united surfaces must be large enough and the bones furnishing the same must be strong enough to support the weight and the concussion. Consequently, where the diseased joint, be it one of the lower semi-movable joints in the hock or the coronet-joint, is absolutely too weak, the desired ankylosis either will not be produced, or if produced will not be permanent, and then the lameness, perhaps worse than ever, will reappear. As has been said above, strict rest for a sufficient length of time (on an average for two months) and a moderate degree of inflammation are necessary. The first is provided by keeping the animal to be treated for at least two months tied in a single stall that is not too wide and has a level floor, and there to provide the patient with food and water for drinking. To avoid any misunderstanding, I will explicitly say that the patient must not be taken out of the stall for any purpose whatever during the time of treatment. The moderate degree of inflammation can be produced in different ways; for instance, by repeated external applications of sharp salves or ointments (one composed of biniodide of mercury, one part, and hog's lard, twelve parts, thoroughly mixed and triturated in a porcelain mortar, and rubbed in on the diseased part of the joint about once every three to five days, according to circumstances, will probably answer better than anything else), and in another way, in some cases preferable, by firing with a pear-shaped and pointed red-hot iron. The latter has the advantage of requiring but one application and the disadvantage of being apt to produce lasting scars and of requiring very good judgment. Still, if good judgment is used and the firing is done with a steady hand, the scars which are left behind, as a rule, are insignificant and can hardly be seen. I use and prefer for firing a heavy pear-shaped iron ending in a point of about thirty degrees, fastened (welded) with its blunt end to a iron handle twenty-eight or thirty inches long (long enough to enable me to keep at a safe distance), half an inch wide and about a quarter of an inch thick, so as to make it sufficiently thin and flexible to enable me to bend it so as to put the pear-shaped and heated part into any angle to the handle I may desire. At the free end of the iron rod I have a wooden handle. I prefer a heavy firing-iron for two reasons; first, a heavy iron can be kept more steady than a light one, and secondly, if the iron is heavy enough and is once well heated, it will keep the heat until the whole operation is finished; a second and third, or perhaps fourth and fifth, heating is not necessary, and the whole operation can be finished before the animal operated on becomes excited and finds out what is going on. With this iron heated at red heat I burn from five to six points about three fourths of an inch apart and sufficiently deep to penetrate the skin and to throw out exudation. Each point is touched two or three, and if the iron is

not quite hot enough, perhaps four times. Care must be taken not to fire the large vein (the vena saphena) passing upward on the median forepart of the hock-joint. For the operation I keep the horse standing, put a good twist on his nose to quiet him, and instruct the man who holds the bridle to hold the horse's head high; also to cover with his hand the eye of the horse on that side on which I do the firing. If these little precautions are taken, the whole operation can be finished in less than a minute and without any defensive movement of the animal. That the points must be made at the right place, covering the diseased part of the joint, that the same must neither be too deep nor too shallow, and that the operator must have a steady hand and must exercise good judgment, will not need any explanation. The other method consisting in repeated applications of a sharp ointment or salve also requires good judgment. It has the advantage of not having any blemishes in the shape of scars. If it is to be applied, it is advisable to make the first application a thorough one, but like all subsequent ones it should be limited to the seat of the disease, and there the ointment should be thoroughly rubbed in with the hand. It is not necessary to use a large quantity of the salve at each application; on the contrary, to use too much will be productive of damage. About as much as the size of half a hazelnut will be enough for each application, except the first, when a little more may be used. The second application can be made three days after the first. Three days after the second scabs will have formed. These are easily removed by greasing them over with a little clean lard, for this will sufficiently loosen them so as to make it easy to scratch them off with the finger-nails after twenty-four hours. This done, the third application should be made, and so on; whenever scabs have been formed, the same must be removed in the way stated before a new application is made. This treatment must be continued about eight weeks. After the last application, but not before every trace of soreness has disappeared and not until the horse has begun to stand squarely on his four feet, the same may be subjected to a test, which, of course, must not be more than a gentle exercise in a walk over a short distance, say a hundred feet. On the second day the exercise may be a little further, but only in a walk. The third day a slow trot over a short distance is admissible. On the fourth day the same, only a little further, and so on. If the horse does not show any lameness in these tests, the same in about a week may be employed for light work, which may be gradually, but gradually only, increased in about a month to ordinary work. Concerning the prognosis or the prospect of effecting a cure of the lameness, provided no mistake has been made in the treatment, I may yet say that the prognosis is the more favorable the stronger and the better the make-up (the mechanical proportions) of the affected joint, the more hard work the horse has performed before spavin or ringbone made its appearance, and the more quiet and docile the disposition of the animal, and vice versa. The prognosis is the more unfavorable the weaker and the more defective the make-up of the diseased joint, the less work the animal has done before the same contracted spavin or ringbone, and the more restless, nervous and irritable the disposition. Another article on spavin and ringbone will not be published within a year.

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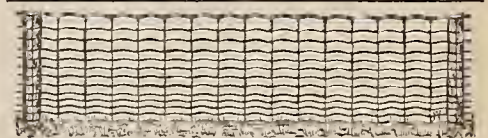
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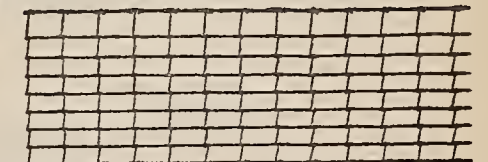
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Sleep, little one, with your head on my breast,
Blossoms and bees lie a-dreaming;
Wrapt in a slumber, the bird in her nest
Heeds not the moon faintly gleaming.
Where are the silken-winged white butterflies,
Sailed through the garden the bright sun to greet?
Stirless they rest 'neath the shadowy skies:
Sleep thou, my sweet.

Sleep, little one, with your cheek velvet red
Pressed, like a rose, on my shoulder.
Dim grows the light in the sky overhead,
Dim grows the shadows, and colder.
Hushed is the wind on the wooded hill's brow,
Silence has chained his invisible feet.
Heavy with slumber, the lithe willows bow;
Sleep thou, my sweet.

—By Laura G. Ackroyd, in The Senate.

THE ROAD COMMISSIONER

BY ANNIE M. BURKE.

CHAPTER I.

IT was near the time for the spring election in Poplar Grove township. One party had held its caucus and made out its ticket, and the other was about to do likewise. The election, too, had fair to be a hot one, for every one was excited over who should be commissioner of highways, or "road commissioner," as he was called. In Poplar Grove township there were three road commissioners. They held

their office for three years, and one new commissioner was elected each year. This spring the people in the half of the township known as "The Ridge" were fiercely determined to have the new commissioner from their side; while the people on the other half, known as "The Creek," were equally determined he should be from their side. As for politics, they were rather crowded out by sectional feeling in Poplar Grove.

The Creek people had always claimed that their road-work was slighted. None of the three commissioners was from their side. Two were from the Ridge and the third from a point midway between, but from the Creek there was no officer and had never been. Since the settlement of the district, since the organization of the township, they had at no time been able to elect their officers. However, this spring they meant to strain every nerve to at least get in their man for road commissioner.

The Ridge people it was who had already held their caucus and made out their ticket, and it was now the afternoon of the day on which the Creek people were having their meeting. The man who was on the Ridge ticket for commissioner was one Tom Franklin, who had already held the office twelve years. He was a "well-off" farmer and a popular man, and who the Creek people were now going to put up to run against him was a matter of interest to every one. Little children talked about it and discussed it, and boys, who wished they were old enough to vote, told who they thought the Creek people would nominate, and gave their opinions as to which way the election would go.

However, the greatest excitement to-day was not among the children nor among the boys; neither was it among the voters who lounged in the post-office, nor was it even up in the room above the post-office where the caucus was being held. It was in a big white farm-house up on the Ridge. There was no mother in this farm-house, but there were seven daughters, and it was their father who was already on the Ridge ticket for road commissioner. Who the Creek people were going to nominate, who they were going to "put up to run against father," was a question of absorbing interest to the seven girls. Ever since they had risen from their beds in the morning they had been talking about it, and now that their work was done, and they were all sitting down sewing, they went over it afresh.

"But it's no difference who they put up," one of them said, finally; "they'll not get father out! They'll not get father ousted out of that office, no matter who they nominate!"

"Father has never lost an office yet that he tried for," another one said. "He's been assessor once and collector twice, and he could be supervisor if he wanted to be."

"And he's been road commissioner now for twelve years!" chimed in still another.

"And all the Creek people can do can't put him out!" cried a fourth.

"But don't be too sure, girls," Debby, the eldest, cautioned them. "Father might miss it, you know. He got in by only thirteen votes majority last time."

"But thirteen votes are a good many in a township where there are only a hundred and ninety-eight voters in all," said Jessie.

"But the Creekers are going to make a big effort this time," argued Debby. "They're going to put up the very most popular man they can find on their side of the township. They won't tell who it is, but it's some one that'll run well on a ticket."

"And they're counting upon getting some votes from this side, too, I heard," said Mollie, who, like Debby, was disposed to be less confident than the others concerning their father's election.

At this the group of faces became grave. Could it be that any of the Ridge people would vote against father? This would be a serious thing indeed. Then suddenly Jen brightened up and looked mischievous.

"We'll have to use our influence, girls," she said. "We must be friendly to people and shake hands with every one we meet. That'll catch the votes for father, you know!"

"And we must be especially kind to all the young voters!" added another of these naughty young ladies. "We've got a lot of influence there, I know."

Then these seven girls, I am ashamed to say, fell to discussing how they could gain the votes of certain people they knew. Even Ruthie and Maimie, who were only children, told how they could use their influence and of how they would "electioneer for father." They were quite in earnest for the most part in what they said, but there was also a good deal of fun and nonsense given expression to.

"Debby!" Mollie called out, brusquely. "You must make your beau vote for father! Tell him you will give him the mitten if he doesn't. And Jen, that little Simpson that's always running after you, you must tell him you'll listen to him at last if he'll promise to vote for father on election day!"

Debby, the eldest, pretended to be shocked at this, but she laughed with the others. "My beau, as you call him, is a Ridger, and will vote for father, anyway," she said. "So will little Simpson, for he belongs to this side, too. But Ernestine here—what'll you have her to do? The fellow that comes to

farmer entered. He had a ruddy complexion, light brown hair, and a figure rather portly for a follower of the plow. However, he was easily recognizable as the father of the seven rosy girls.

They rushed upon him. "Who's nominated, father? Who's nominated?" they shouted. "Who have the Creek people put up against you?"

"You'd never guess in the world—not if you tried all day," he answered. And he went to the table and put down some parcels he had brought from the store.

"But who, father, who?" begged the girls. "You haven't told."

"It's a young fellow they've put up—a mere boy!" he said. And he looked oddly at Ernestine as he spoke. "Thought none of the old fellows would run good enough, I guess!"

Again the girls clamored to know who it was, and again their father looked oddly at Ernestine.

"It's Ollie Ferguson," he said.

Exclamations of astonishment burst from the girls. "Ollie Ferguson! Ollie Ferguson!" they cried. Then they, too, looked at Ernestine.

Ernestine bore their scrutiny quite well. She was not given to talking and exclaiming at any time, and she maintained her usual silence now. She took care, also, that the expression of her grave little face did not change much, though she must have been as much surprised as any of them.

"Well, now," said Debby, after a pause. "I thought they always put up an old man or a middle-aged one, at least, for road commissioner!"

"And Ollie's only a boy," said Maimie and Ruthie.

"Them Creek people think he's all right."



"NO, FATHER," SAID SHE; "IF I HAD A VOTE I'D CAST IT FOR YOU."

SHE WAS STANDING BEFORE THE MIRROR COMBING OUT HER LONG BROWN HAIR.

see her is a Creeker to the marrow of his bones!"

Then they all turned upon Ernestine, who was a grave, composed young lady in the midst of her noisy sisters.

"Oh, Ernestine," they said, "you must make Ollie Ferguson vote for father! He's a hot Creeker, and there's your chance to 'electioneer! You must tell him he's got to vote for father or you won't take any more of those huggy-rides with him! Do you hear, Ernestine?"

Ernestine received this rather coldly. "I think it's disgraceful to talk so," she said.

"Ernestine knows she could never make Ollie vote for father," said Debby, after a pause. "That's why she's so high-minded about it—she knows she can't do it."

"No, she could never do it," agreed Mollie. "though she could move heaven and earth she could never make Ollie Ferguson vote against the Creek people!"

"I bet he'd vote for father if he was my beau!" said Jen, significantly.

"But you will try to make him, won't you, Ernestine?" Maimie and Ruthie, the two little girls, asked anxiously. "You will try, won't you, Ernestine?"

Before Ernestine could answer a step was heard outside the door. The girls started, and looked at each other with frightened faces. Had some one heard their shocking talk? But suddenly Jessie jumped to her feet and bounded to the door.

"It's father come back from the post-office," she cried. "He'll have the news of the caucus, girls! He'll know who's nominated!"

The door swung open and a jolly, hale old

though," said Mr. Franklin. "They think they've done something sharp. He's popular—everybody likes him, they say, and they claim there ain't a vote on that side the township he won't get, and some of 'em think he'll get part of the Ridge votes. But they'll find out on election day! I'd be willing to wager my last dollar that young Ferguson nor any other Creeker won't get many Ridge votes—not while I'm against him on the ticket."

Debby and Jen and others promptly responded. "Indeed he won't, father!" And Mr. Franklin went on:

"It ain't the office I care about; it's just to keep them sneakin' Creekers out. There ain't anything in the office—it didn't amount to a hundred dollars last year! But if we let any of them Creekers in they'll go to spending the township money down there on Poplar creek. They want to put another big bridge across the creek where it ain't needed, and they'll be for putting through a new road down there and a lot of other things, and we've got to keep 'em out of the office if we can."

Maimie went over to her father and tumbled into his lap. "I guess Tom Franklin isn't going to be put out of office in Poplar Grove township," she said, "not by a boy, anyway! No, indeed! Indeed!"

Then Ernestine spoke for the first time. Thus far she had let her sisters do all the commenting and replying, as was her wont. But now she spoke quite distinctly.

"Ollie isn't a boy. He's twenty-six years old," she said.

They all looked at her curiously for a

moment. Then Debby said: "It's a good thing the girls in Poplar Grove haven't got a vote; if they had Ernestine would never know which way to cast hers this election."

The girls laughed, but Mr. Franklin watched Ernestine.

"I think if my little girl had a vote she wouldn't cast it against her old father for any young fellow that ever lived," he said.

Ernestine evidently hoped to escape replying to this under cover of the general talk and noise, but her father repeated the question, looking directly at her. "My little Ernestine wouldn't vote against her old father for a young Poplar Creeker, even if he had taken her out huggy-riding a few times?"

Then she had to speak. She hesitated a moment, but finally laughed and looked up into his face pleasantly enough. When Ernestine did choose to speak and smile, she was very charming.

"No, father," said she; "if I had a vote I'd cast it for you."

He patted her head approvingly. "I thought so! I thought so!" he said, and seemed satisfied.

He went out soon after that, for it was now near chore-time. The girls, too, had to separate, two going to the kitchen, two to the milk-house and three to the cow-yard. However, they all met again at the supper-table, and here the talk of the election was spiritedly renewed. How many votes Ollie might get, how many father was sure to get, which way certain floating votes would be liable to go—every detail was brought up and every possibility discussed.

As for Ernestine, she took no part in the talk, maintaining her usual graceful silence; but this being her way it was not thought to signify anything. However, a few hours later, when the girls were alone for the night, Ernestine spoke.

She was standing before the mirror combing out her long brown hair. She was the only one of the seven who had dark hair; also, she was the only one that was not plump and rosy. Her slim figure, though, was quite graceful, and her face, though pale, had exceedingly pretty features. Just now the little features had rather a cold, preoccupied expression, but when the other girls had talked themselves out she made her remark.

"I'll venture anything father'll quarrel with Ollie before the election's over!" she said.

The girls stopped and looked at her. "Oh, no, surely not!" they said. "We're all such friends with Ollie, and he's been coming to see you so much lately."

Ernestine paid no attention to this. "I'll venture anything he'll quarrel with him," she repeated, with decision.

The girls looked concerned, but remained silent, as they watched her weave her hair into a long braid.

"He always quarrels with the men they put up to run against him," Ernestine continued. "Every time he's been on the ticket yet. You remember the time old Templeton ran against him for road commissioner? We had to be out with the whole Templeton family, and we're scarcely on speaking terms with them yet."

The girls were quite grave over this. They all liked Ollie, and now that Ernestine spoke of it, they believed it would be just like their father to quarrel with him. But then they were disposed to be hopeful about it. Perhaps father would be careful for once; and besides, Ollie was so pleasant and good-natured, it wouldn't be easy to quarrel with him. But Ernestine would not listen to them. "Father'll be sure to quarrel with Ollie before the election's over," she said, positively.

Half an hour later the lights were out, the seven sisters were in bed, and the house all dark and still. It was then that Jen, who was Ernestine's bed-fellow, heard her sister again distinctly say:

"Father'll be sure to quarrel with Ollie before the election's over!"

And Jen went to sleep vaguely wondering why it made so much difference. What if her father should quarrel with Ollie? It would be too bad, of course, but couldn't Ernestine get another bean? She believed she could.

However, it was not many days till Ernestine had proved herself to be a true prophetess.

CHAPTER II.

In Poplar Grove township there was a man named Sharkey, who was very much interested in Ollie Ferguson's election. He was from the Creek side of the township, of course, and he was wont to lounge about the post-office or blacksmith-shop for hours at a time talking about the rights of the Creekers and about how their road-work had always been slighted. In local elections like this there was, of course, no speech-making, but Sharkey managed in one way or another to do a great deal of private electioneering for Ollie, thereby winning for himself the sobriquet of "Ferguson's manager."

One rainy spring afternoon Sharkey lounged into the store where the post-office was kept. He was talking garrulously about how the road commissioners always used two thirds of the money on the Ridge side of the township, thus cheating the Creek side. He made some rather daring statements, but his audience being all Creekers, they got him into no trouble. However, after awhile

a prominent Ridger came in. It was no other than Tom Franklin, candidate for road commissioner on the Ridge ticket. He immediately went over to the post-office part of the room and called for his mail. This brought him quite near Sharkey, but "Ferguson's manager" prided himself on his daring, and paid no attention to Mr. Franklin. He went right on with his assertions about the Creek people being cheated.

"Yes, there ain't no doubt about that," he informed his audience: "the Ridgers have used more than their share of the road money!"

Mr. Franklin was looking over his mail, and said nothing, but the expression of his face told that he had heard.

"For the last nine years, anyway, they've used two thirds of the money, an' we've had one third," went on Sharkey. "If you don't believe it you can just look at the roads. They've got new bridges an' culverts everywhere, an' our roads—you can't haul a load over 'em six months in the year!"

Then Franklin spoke, but with a show of good humor. "Come, now, Sharkey, I guess you don't mean all that," he said. "Your roads are worked as well as ours, but they're all hills! Of course, you can't put a loaded wagon on 'em when it's wet. It would take a thousand dollars a year to keep them Creek hills off-yours so you could travel on 'em!"

"If we just got our share of the money spent on the township I guess our 'hills,' as you call 'em, 'u'd be all right," retorted Sharkey, maliciously.

There was a pause. Then Mr. Franklin spoke again, and did not try this time to conceal his anger.

"I've been road commissioner for twelve years in Poplar Grove," he said. "If anybody knows how the road-money's been spent I ought to, and I say again right here that there's been just as much work put on the Creek roads as on the Ridge, only they're so rough and hilly they don't show it. Some of the hills are so steep and sharp that the horses are going down one side before the wagon has got up on the other. It would take a fortune to keep such roads graded. Twenty dollars spent on the Ridge side would show more than fifty on the Creek!"

Sharkey took this insult to his "hills" with very bad grace, and again made his daring assertion about two thirds the money being put on the Ridge roads.

Franklin was beginning to look excited, but at this moment the mail-carrier came in and threw his leather bag across the counter. Close upon his heels came a troop of children just let out from school, shouting, "Is there any mail for us?" "Anything for our folks?" and Mr. Franklin and Sharkey were interrupted and pushed apart. Several newcomers appeared at the store door, and one of them called out to Sharkey to come out, that he wanted to talk up a horse-trade with him.

Sharkey went, and that was the last Mr. Franklin saw of him that day. However, he did some busy thinking about him. All the way home he dwelt upon the conversation in the post-office, and his anger increased with every step. By the time he had reached the house, where his seven girls were waiting supper for him, he was pretty well excited. He took his place at the table and immediately began telling them what Sharkey had said to him.

The girls listened with indignation and sympathy. "The idea!" "How dared he!" "That mean Sharkey!" were the ejaculations.

"He just as good as told me I was telling what wasn't so!" continued Mr. Franklin, angrily. "Yes, he contradicted me twice to my face, and I had told him that I'd helped lay out the money and I knew."

"And who could know better than you, I'd like to know," cried Debby. "when you've been road commissioner for twelve years?"

"Them sneakin' Creokers are always hinting that we cheat them, and there's got to be a stop put to it," continued the farmer. "They're always hinting it. The next time any of 'em tells me that about the road-money being spent mostly on this side, I'm going to tell him he's lying. Yes, I'll tell him he's a liar!"

Mr. Franklin was getting up from the table as he said this, and before he went out to do the chores he repeated it again—"Yes, the next time one of them tells me that about the road-money, I'll tell him he's a liar!"

While her father had been telling about his quarrel with Sharkey, Ernestine had remained silent, with her eyes on her plate, and with a cold, hard expression on her little face. After he went out she spoke, and her voice was as cold and hard as her face.

"The next person to tell him that about the road-money will be Ollie," she said to her sisters.

"Then father'll tell him he's a liar!" said Maimie and Ruth, shocked.

"Yes, father'll tell him he's a liar!" said Ernestine.

But the other girls protested. "Oh, no, surely not," they said. "Father and Ollie won't talk that way to each other! They could never go so far as that! We've been such friends with Ollie!"

Ernestine scorned to reply to such weak argument as this. She got up and began piling the dishes together, signifying that she wished to talk no more upon the subject.

However, the girls soon grew to respect Ernestine's prophecies. It was a few days later, and Mr. Franklin with one of the hired men took three horses down to the blacksmith-shop to get them shod. There must have been a rush on at the blacksmith's that day, for they were gone till late in the afternoon. On near four o'clock the hired man returned, leading two newly shod horses, and told the girls their father was following with the third. The girls had been shelling seed-corn all day. This, to be sure, was not girls' work, but on a farm where there are seven girls and no boys such tasks often fall to the girls. Moreover, this crowd had no objections to the task, but counted it only fun to drop the ears in the spout and whirl them through the sheller.

When the hired man, who was a good-natured Irishman, had tied his horses in the stall, he came over to the part of the barn where the girls were. "Arrah, now," said he, "but it's a great fight your father was after getting himself into in the blacksmith-shop to-day!"

"A fight, Barney!" cried the girls, aghast. "Not a real fight, Barney! You don't mean that!"

"Well, no," said Barney, slowly. "I'm not after sayin' they came to blows, exactly. But they were blest near to it, now; there's no gettin' past that!"

"But who was it with, Barney? Who was father quarreling with?" demanded the girls, breathlessly.

Barney hesitated a moment and looked doubtfully at Ernestine. She immediately spoke. "It was Ollie Ferguson!" she said.

"Dado, now, and you've guessed it right," said Barney, looking at her astonished. "It was no other than Ollie Ferguson himself."

"Ollie Ferguson! Ollie Ferguson!" cried the other girls. "Did he insult father, Barney? Did he dare to say mean things to him?"

"Troth, now, I think it was that owld road question they had between them," said Barney, "talking about where the money was spent, and where it wasn't spent, and so on. The owld man—yer father, I mane—called the young fellow a liar, and he said something back—I don't mind me now just what—but anyway yer father asked him to come out on the road to fight, and the young fellow wouldn't go."

"Afraid!" said Debby.

"Coward!" said Jen.

"Not one of the Creokers can put father down!" put in Mollie.

"And father's past fifty!" said Jessie.

They stood there asking questions and commenting excitedly on the affair, till Ernestine—cold, white-faced Ernestine, who was saying nothing, began shoveling the corn into the baskets again; then they had to go on with the work of carrying it away. Debby and Jen lifted one large basket between them, Mollie and Jessie took another, while Ruth and Maimie ran along to open the granary doors.

When they were all gone Barney crossed the floor to Ernestine. "Sure, it's yer swate-heart acted the gentleman entirely to-day, miss!" he whispered.

Ernestine, leaning on her shovel, looked up, her whole face lighted. "Did he, Barney?" she asked, eagerly. "Did Ollie act all right?"

"He did that, miss," answered Barney, enthusiastically. "He carried himself like a gentleman through it all. And now, I know yer not wanting to hear anything against yer father, but it's no more than the truth I tell ye when I say the owld man made a fool of himself to-day. Everybody that was listening said that same—Ridgers and all! Sure it was him started the quarrel and kep' it up all the way through, though the young fellow got ahead of him wid the wit and the cute answers, till in the ind Ferguson told him he wouldn't fight wid a man twice his age!"

At this moment Ruthie and Maimie were heard coming back, and Ernestine hastily returned to her shoveling. Barney went away to another part of the barn, thoroughly pleased to have been able to report Ollie's good conduct to Ernestine.

Barney liked Ernestine. At first, when he had begun working at the Franklin's two years ago he had liked the other six better; they were so good-hearted and boisterous and reminded him so much of the jolly girls he had been raised among back in old Tipperary. Beside them Ernestine had seemed so cold and unfriendly. But later he had changed his mind about this. One day he had fallen off the haymow and had hurt one foot badly. Ernestine herself had taken off his shoe and applied liniment. Then she had rubbed the swollen foot with her own slim little hands to ease the pain. Barney had never forgotten this, and when election day came he meant to vote for the girl's sweet-heart rather than for her father, believing this would further her wishes more.

(To be continued.)

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MR. WILLIS' SIDEBOARD

BY MARY LEONARD.

Mrs. Ransom gave one hundred dollars for it at the time of the Marston exhibition, and it is a beauty; don't you remember it?" Mrs. Willis looked across the daintily appointed breakfast-table at as much of her husband as was visible behind the morning paper.

"Did you say it was sheep?" he asked, only half emerging from an editorial on the money question.

"I don't believe you have the slightest idea of what I am talking about; do put down your paper for a moment. It is sheep, but it is called 'Evening'; it hung near the middle of the west wall, and everybody admired it. I know I envied Bessie when Tom bought it for her, though of course I knew then we could not afford anything of the sort."

"Why such emphasis upon then?" questioned Mr. Willis, who had obediently laid down his paper and now stirred his coffee as he looked at his wife.

"Because, dear, I think perhaps we could afford it now; you know you said yourself that you were doing very well."

"Fairly; but that does not mean that we have a hundred dollars to spend on a trumpet water-color; though that is neither here nor there, as it is not on the market."

Mrs. Willis held in stern check her rising indignation at this adjective. "It is on the market, as you call it, for the Ransoms have decided to dispose of some of their things before they go abroad, their stay is so indefinite. I am sure you don't remember this picture, for if you did you would understand what a bargain it is at seventy-five dollars."

"I thought you said one hundred."

"Harry, you are stupid! Bessie is willing to let us have it at seventy-five. She cannot bear to have it go into unappreciative hands."

"Ah, ha!" observed Mr. Willis, breaking an egg with the air of one who understood the situation.

"Ever since Cousin Fanny sent for her etching I have been longing for something to go over the cabinet in the drawing-room. This is really a rare opportunity, and I hope you will consider it seriously."

"Belle, I remember that picture perfectly; I also recall two others which hung near it, down on the catalogue respectively as 'A Gray Day,' and 'A Sunny Day,' and no human being, except, perhaps, the artist himself, could tell which was which without looking at the number."

"I fail to see what this time-honored joke has to do with it," Mrs. Willis' chin expressed great disdain in spite of her.

"My dear, I am always logical; I will tell you. I wished you to know that I do remember the exhibition. And now something in confidence; those were not sheep at all. I examined that picture carefully, and what looked like sheep were simply little danbs of grayish white paint. I did not mention it at the time, Tom seemed so happy in the delusion that he was buying sheep. I have no objection to the animals, but when I buy sheep I want a fair imitation of the article, not a shadowy suggestion which might as well be called Newfoundland dogs or polar bears."

"Baby's woolly lamb is about your ideal, then?" suggested his wife. Then they both laughed, being young and happy and in the main well disposed toward each other.

Later on Mrs. Willis reopened the subject, but her husband hardened his heart, and all her arguments and pleading only resulted in:

"Honestly, Belle, I am sorry, but we cannot afford such a needless luxury at present."

"If it only happened to be a piece of antique furniture it would be a different matter. You are simply saving to buy the first uncomfortable chair or lumbering table which any one will assure you is over a hundred years old. You ought to be ashamed of yourself, Harry; why should you have the only hobby in the family?"

Even as she spoke a spasm of amusement passed over Mrs. Willis' indignant face, but it was quickly gone.

"I have nothing more to say, except that when I am rich you shall have all the sheep pictures you want," was her husband's magnanimous reply.

"Perhaps I'll spend Uncle John's birthday money on it," she remarked, as he kissed her good-by.

"Of course, you can do as you like with that, but I thought you were saving it for New York?"

Mr. Willis smiled to himself as he waited on the corner for a car. "Belle gave in more easily than I expected; it is only something Bessie Ransom has tried to talk her into," and with this comfortable conclusion he dismissed the matter from his mind.

Not so Mrs. Willis. She moved about her pretty house that morning with pursed-up lips and merry eyes, every now and then breaking into a little laugh.

"I shall certainly do it; it will serve him right," she said; and sitting down to her desk she wrote a letter, with many pauses for deliberation before it was finished. Then she dressed and went down town.

At dinner that evening nothing was said about the picture, and when a week passed

with no mention of it Mr. Willis concluded that his wife had never really meant to spend her uncle's gift in that way.

II.

"Hello, Willis! You are the very fellow I want to see; come in."

The speaker was Mr. Burton, a furniture dealer from whom Mr. Willis had, upon several occasions, purchased pieces of old mahogany, for which he had an extravagant fancy. That gentleman, who was walking briskly up town, came to a sudden halt.

"I have the prettiest sideboard you ever saw," continued Mr. Burton. "Do you remember that one of the McArthur's? This beats it."

"Where did it come from?" asked Mr. Willis, interested at once, but with a swift recollection of his wife's words about antique furniture.

"From some people up in the country, who are anxious to dispose of it as soon as possible. You must see it."

It was not in human nature to resist, but as they went up in the elevator Mr. Willis remarked several times that he was going simply to look, as purchasing was out of the question.

"That's all right; I only want you to see it. You know a good thing of this sort, and I want your opinion."

The sideboard stood near a window, somewhat removed from the more modern furniture which stretched in long rows down the room. The eyes of this lover of old mahogany brightened as he caught sight of it.

"How is that for tone, eh? It takes time to do this kind of thing; the most clever imitation can't near it!"

Mr. Willis nodded silently as he viewed it from all sides.

"Did you ever see such rich simplicity?" continued Mr. Burton; "not a bit of superficial decoration about it, and then the convenience of it."

He began pulling out the drawers with their convex fronts, and opening various doors to display the roominess of each compartment.

"Observe the fluted posts, and the carving on the feet, and this exquisite beading—"

"For mercy's sake, Burton, is this an auction, or do you think I am blind?"

"Well, I am sure you haven't said anything; I want to impress its good points upon you. What do you think of it?"

"This is the first opportunity I have had. There can be but one opinion about it—it is a gem." Indeed, Mr. Willis seemed unable to take his eyes from it.

Mr. Burton chuckled: "Just needs a little doing over to make it perfect; but I haven't told you the best thing about it. I am authorized to sell it for one hundred dollars. The owner wants to dispose of it at once. I have more than half a mind to buy it myself, for I am convinced that when it is done over I can nearly double my money on it, but if you want it I'll let you have it."

"It seems like the chance of a lifetime, and yet, unfortunately, my wife has a serious objection to old furniture; she says our rooms are too small."

"I am willing to bet ten dollars that she can't resist this," said Mr. Burton, confidently.

Mr. Willis went home in an uncomfortable state of mind that evening. The more he thought of it the more he felt that he must have the sideboard, and yet how could he make Belle see it as he did? She would be certain to say, "I told you so," and with some reason; but who could think there was any comparison between that silly picture and this exquisite piece of furniture?

He summoned sufficient courage after awhile to mention it carelessly. "If I had the money to spare I should certainly buy it. It is the most beautiful mahogany you ever saw, genuine Colonial; even you would admire it."

Mrs. Willis laughed. "But of course you couldn't afford it now," she said; "what a pity!"

That wretched sideboard invaded Mr. Willis' dreams, and his first waking thought was one of longing to possess it.

As he was putting on his overcoat in the hall his wife came behind him, and with her hands on his shoulders, said, "Harry, if you want that sideboard, I want you to buy it. No doubt it is very valuable, and so far as the picture is concerned, I have decided to spend Uncle John's money for it."

"This is tremendously good of you, Belle. I know you will want it when you see it, and I am sure it will go very well in the dining-room between the window and the fireplace, if we move the china-case. You needn't laugh, for I never should have thought of getting it without your permission," he added.

III.

In due time it came home, and even Mrs. Willis could not deny its beauty. As for her husband, he could not tear himself away, but sat before it all that first evening expatiating on its merits and explaining its convenience.

It really did not crowd the room, and with her pretty silver and glass set out upon it the mistress of the house surveyed it with something very like pride. The picture also made its appearance, and was triumphantly hung over the cabinet in the drawing-room.

Mr. Willis wondered if Belle would not regret her extravagance when the time came for their annual visit to New York, and he made up his mind to be as generous with her as possible on their shopping expeditions.

Mrs. Willis, however, betrayed no regret, and all went well until one day when a favorite young cousin dropped down upon them unexpectedly to stay over night.

Mr. Willis brought her home to lunch, and his wife received her with open arms, declaring she must stay at least a week.

"What a pretty house you have, Belle!" exclaimed the young lady, when she had a chance to look about her. "You know you had just moved in when I was here last."

"I am so glad you think so; and now come, Sadie, and see my new picture, which Harry does not care for," and Belle led the way to the drawing-room.

"And now," said Mr. Willis, when this had been duly admired, "come and see something worth while."

"No, Harry, wait till lunch is ready," protested his wife; but in spite of her pleading that Sadie must come up-stairs first, he carried the young lady off to the dining-room.

Mrs. Willis followed reluctantly, reaching the door in time to hear Sadie exclaim, "Why, Cousin Harry, so you have Aunt Dorothy's sideboard! It is a beauty, but I thought Belle said she would never have it in her house."

"What are you talking about? I bought this from Burton, and a bargain it was," insisted Mr. Willis.

"But I can't be mistaken; I was brought up with Aunt Dorothy's sideboard. Belle, explain the mystery."

"Sadie, why did you come to destroy the peace of a once happy household?" cried Mrs. Willis, sinking into the nearest chair. "Harry, don't look at me in that awful way."

"I don't understand," he began, with such a blank countenance that she burst out laughing.

"Of course you don't; but I would have explained at a suitable time if you had not persisted in showing it to Sadie before I could warn her."

"Then it is your aunt's sideboard?"

"No, dear, it is yours, all yours. Aunt Dorothy left it to me when she died, but I didn't value it very highly, and after I was married I was afraid to mention it, knowing your weakness. In fact, I had almost forgotten it till you were so obstinate about the picture, then I thought of selling it, and as it would not do to let it go out of the family, I wrote to Cousin Fanny to send it down to Mr. Burton, who kindly agreed to sell it to you."

"I have been basely deceived! You said you were going to spend Uncle John's money for that picture, and instead you extorted it from your husband under false pretenses."

"You deceived yourself," cried Mrs. Willis. "I did spend Uncle John's money; I am saving yours for New York."

"It is the meanest thing I ever heard of," declared the injured owner of the sideboard.

"But you will forgive me, dearest? I'll never do it again!"

"You will never have a chance! However," with a sigh, "we must keep up appearances before Sadie." But that young person had wisely withdrawn.

"Harry," said Mrs. Willis, at dinner that night, "you did walk into the trap so nicely; it was delightful. Your gratitude to me for letting you buy the sideboard was almost too much for me."

"I had never before had reasons to be suspicious of my wife's motives," he retorted.

"Hadden't a guilty conscience something to do with it? But at any rate, Harry, it was all in the family!"

CRAVATS ARE ANCIENT.

The cravat was once the name of a great military nation—the Croats, or Cravates, of the Balkans. It was their fashion to wrap large shawls or pieces of cloth around their necks and shoulders. About the middle of the reign of Louis XIV. he uniformed several regiments in the Croat fashion, with huge shawls about their necks. The fashion took, and the shawl diminished in size to the slight strip of cloth we still have with us.

VALUE OF SKILLED LABOR.

A striking illustration of the value of labor, when bestowed upon a material like iron, is given by the statement that a bar of iron worth \$5, when manufactured into needles, is worth \$55, into pen-knives about \$3,250, into buttons, \$30,500 and into watch-springs, \$255,000.

CRIPPLE CREEK INVESTMENTS.

Big fortunes have been made by a small investment in Cripple Creek stocks, and the way many have suddenly acquired wealth would make interesting reading. We can not here go into details, but if you will write us we will suggest a plan that will materially improve your pecuniary condition. We have something special to offer, and it will cost you nothing to send us your name and get on our list for Cripple Creek literature. Our facilities in the stock business are unexcelled. Address The Meechem Investment Company, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

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Short-hand; Mechanical and Architectural Drawing; Machine Design; Stationary, Marine and Locomotive Engineering; Architecture; Railroad, Municipal, Hydraulic & Bridge Engineering; Surveying and Mapping; Sheet Metal Pattern Cutting; Plumb's; Electricity; Mining; Metal Prospecting; English Branches. All who study **GUARANTEED SUCCESS.** Fees Moderate, Advance or Installments. Circular Free; State subject you wish to study. International Correspondence Schools, Box 859 Scranton, Pa.

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Brass, Glass, Silverware, Bicycles, Tan or Patent Shoes. Stoves, in fact everything that requires a soft polisher, our **SHEEP SKIN MITTENS** are enthusiastically endorsed by thousands of users as the cleanest and brightest polisher ever made. You **CANNOT BE** without it if you wish to save time, labor and dirt. Sent post-paid for 15 cts. stamps or silver. This offer is not **EXCELLED!** 620 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Mass.

ELGIN WATCH

There are no better watches to be had than Elgin watches. If you buy one of them you know you will have the best timekeeper that American skill can make. All our watches with Elgin movements are in **GENUINE DUEBER CASES** handsomely engraved, heavily gold plated, will last a lifetime and are known the world over as the standard of American make. We send to anyone giving us his full address the standard, gents' or ladies', per Express, C.O.D., with privilege of examination. If satisfactory, pay agent \$8.50 and express charges; if not, return it at our expense and pay nothing. All watches are guaranteed. If money is sent with order we pay all express charges and give a beautiful chain free.

ROYAL MFG. CO.,
334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.
Mention this paper.

THE RUSH To ALASKA

IN THE SPRING WILL BE TREMENDOUS.

The most profitable business will be in Transportation and Merchandising and in Furnishing Food and Supplies to the Multitude of Gold Seekers—in short, a general Trading, Mercantile and Steamship business. It was so in '49—it will be so in '98.

THE ALASKA TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Incorporated Capital, **\$5,000,000** non-assessable.

To meet this demand, will own and operate its **OWN STEAMERS, BOATS AND BARGES ON THE YUKON.**

Connecting With Its Own Line of Large and Magnificent Ocean Steamers,

specially adapted for passenger business—carrying to that country an immense amount of **Supplies and Equipment** for the miners, as well as furnishing them **Transportation** for theirelves and their goods, and establishing **TRADING STATIONS** at different points. An opportunity is offered any person, be they of small or large means, to buy shares of stock in this company and **participate** in the

ENORMOUS DIVIDENDS

sure to be earned within the next 12 months.

Shares Are Offered at \$1.00 Each par value, non-assessable, and will be offered for a limited time only.

Safer than Savings Banks and Bank Stocks

Paying larger dividends. While numerous savings banks and banks have suspended, transportation and trading companies were never seen in the list of failure. This stock is one of the most desirable investments offered the public.

The incorporators and stockholders who are connected with this company are men of wide experience in similar undertakings and men whose names are sufficient guarantee of the standing of this company, to-wit: **ALBERT C. BLATZ**, Pres. Val. Blatz Brew. Co., Milwaukee.

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And hundreds of others equally prominent.

Address and make all money payable to

The Alaska Transportation and Development Co.

Fisher Building, Cor. Van Buren and Dearborn Sts., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Our Household.

WHEN MARIA STARTS THE FIRE.

At the unholy hour of four,
The time when all the world should snore,
I'm wakened by a slamming door,
By my Maria.

She rises Phoenix-like from bed,
Puts on a rig to knock you dead,
Then in a moment she has fled
To build the fire.

I hear a rumble and a roar,
Like wrecks upon a rock-bound shore,
Then bang, down falls a ton or more
Of coal for that damned fire.

I hear a rattle, roar, and slam,
A muttered word that sounds like clam;
She's wrestling with that feudish pan
Of ashes from the fire.

Then into the cold world she goes,
And humps against a wind that blows
About her from those mis-fit clothes.
Oh, my, that blasted fire!

The pan of ashes veers about,
I hear a wild, blood-curdling shout;
The contents have been emptied out
On my Maria.

She rises in her fearful wrath
And kicks the ash-pan up the path;
Then comes the rest, the aftermath:
She sails in on the fire.

She works an hour and maybe more;
I hear the contest through the door;
I hear her straggling o'er the floor;
At last she builds the fire.

Then when it blazes cheerfully,
My dear Maria steeps the tea,
And cooks the buckwheats hot for me,
On that old kitchen fire.

No sign of conflict in her air,
How calm, how sweet beyond compare,
Is my Maria, so dear, so fair,
Who builds the kitchen fire!

—New Haven Register.

HOME TOPICS.

CLOSETS.—Every woman will agree with me, I am sure, that a house cannot have too many closets. A china-closet opening from the dining-room, a closet from the hall for overcoats, umbrellas, etc., closets for the kitchen, a closet for canned fruits, pickles, etc., in the cellar, a large linen-closet opening from the hall on the second floor, a closet in which to put away winter clothing in summer and summer clothing in the winter, and a good large closet opening from each chamber—all these are none too many for comfort and convenience. Have any or all of these closets if possible, but be sure to have the linen and clothes closets especially, with a window in them for light and ventilation. The window need not be large; a small square or round one will answer every purpose. An unventilated closet, where dresses, coats, etc., are hung, soon becomes malodorous and vitiates the air of the room into which it opens. If your closets are already built, and are so situated that a window is not

possible, be sure to leave the door open when the communicating room is being aired, and also expose all clothing to the sun and air after it is worn, before hanging it in the closet.

CHILDREN'S PLAYTHINGS.—A great many children have too many toys bought for them, consequently they soon become tired of them and want something new. Things which come to them without any effort of their own are not prized, and as soon as the novelty is gone they are thrown to one side. It has been my experience that the toys they make themselves, or at least assist in the making by looking on, are the most cherished of all. No boy enjoys the finest painted and rigged boat that is bought for him as he does one he has whittled out for himself and fitted with masts and sails, with perhaps a little help from mama. A little girl that I know, who has had almost every conceivable toy bought for her, got more pleasure from a wagon which she helped to make out of a pasteboard box and four spools than she ever did from the costly doll-carriage that had been given her. The doll-carriage stood idle many a day while the large and interesting family of dolls were treated to many rides in the spool wagon.

Children are naturally active and inventive. It not only cheats them out of much pleasure, but it dwarfs and hinders their development if everything is done for them and every kind of amusement made ready to their hand. Give them material and tools and let them make their own occupation, with a few hints, maybe. Many an hour will a little one of two or three years amuse himself if given a pair of blunt-pointed scissors and an old plant and seed catalogue. An old book with every second leaf cut out will make a good scrap-book for them, and most wonderful gardens will they construct with the aid of these things and a paste-pot. Let the little girls have old fashion sheets or magazines and make their own paper dolls. They will make a litter? Of course they will, but that will give them a chance to clean it up, which they ought always to be taught to do, no matter what they are playing with. Not many mothers can have a nursery playroom for their children, but all can have a closet, a shelf, a box or a basket in which the little ones can keep their treasures. Each child should have his particular place in which to keep his things, and be early taught to respect the rights and property of others. Encourage unselfishness and liberality, but do not allow the taking of another's property without the permission of the owner.

MAIDA McL.

EARLY FALL GARMENTS FOR CHILDREN.

The new coats for children are in all the pretty new soft shades of green, blue, red and castor. The new blue, called Jockey Club, is a very lovely color for children, and is especially becoming to a brunette with a good deal of color. The close silk bonnets are the same color as the coat; if fur is used on the coat, it can also be used on the cap. Braiding is used a great deal, while many are sim-

dressed light but warm; too many little ones' clothes are a burden to them, and weighed down with them they are unable to walk properly.

RLX.



ply finished with stitching. Large revers of velvet are a pretty finish to a coat, with the vest of heavy lace over white satin. Large felt hats are liked by many. These are trimmed with ribbon and a long ostrich-plume. Sailor collars of white corded silk, hem-stitched, with cuffs to match, are used as accessories on all boys' coats. A long coat will do service as a dressy garment, while the under-dress can remain white, as in the summer — the warmth being in the coat. Velvet skirts with a silk blouse and heavy jacket are much worn by little girls. The skirt should be silk-lined.

Shoes without heels and with good thick soles should be worn; and if very cold, overgaiters may be added to match the rest of the suit. Children should be

SEASONABLE WAISTS.

Every possible effect of the blouse is used both in dresses and coats. Some confine it to the front, making the back plain, while others use it back and front. Shoulder-revers are also much worn. Ruffles of chiffon in black and colors are used as a trimming. Braiding is put on all materials. Velvet fancy yokes upon children's dresses give a youthful appearance to the wearer. Coats have returned to almost the cut of seven years ago, small sleeves being in effect, and the double-breasted, medium length preserved.

A READING CIRCLE.

There are many people who would welcome some approved plan for their home reading and study. It will be of interest to these, and to those who would like to organize a literary club, that the Bay View Reading Circle plans and work are mentioned with much favor. The work is so much liked that every year the membership nearly doubles. Very many farmers' circles have been formed, and never has but a single circle failed, the directors report. Mr. J. M. Hall, Flint, Michigan, is the person to address for information.



Our Household.

HAVING COMPANY.

The letter read, "My dearest Sue, Next Thursday I will spend with you; I won't enjoy my visit, though. If any trouble I bestow."

"Oh, I'm so glad," cried Mrs. White. "For company is such delight!" But looking round her in dismay, "I must get ready right away."

Armed with a dust-pan and a broom. She went to work in every room. She oiled and polished, cleaned and rubbed. And mended, scoured, washed and scrubbed.

Then in the kitchen she began, While perspiration down her ran. At pies and puddings, cakes and bread, As if an army must be fed.

She toiled and fretted, cooked and baked. She hurried, worried, stewed and ached. When Thursday came, she, nearly dead, Just managed to crawl out of bed.

And Mrs. Company came, too; They kissed and hugged like women do. And then began tired Mrs. White To make excuses, never right.

"Oh, dear! my house [then waxen clean] Is 'most too dirty to be seen— So shut your eyes—you're looking stout— Take off your things—I'm just worn out.

"You must excuse my cooking, too. It isn't fit to offer you. ['Twas fit for kings.] Too bad you come Just when I'm upside down at home."

And thus she welcomed and distressed And spoiled the visit of her guest. Who wished she hadn't come to be A tired woman's "company."

GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS.

CROSS-STITCH.—The cross-stitch of our grandmothers holds sway in the preparation of Christmas presents this year. All who have an old sampler in some trunk or bag handed down to them from "ye olden times" consider themselves in luck. For besides the letters on the sampler there are many models for border patterns.

Among the things on which cross-stitch makes suitable decoration is huckabuck toweling. Buy it by the yard. The model towel I saw was one and one half yards before the hems were taken off. Before turning up the hem, baste a piece of canvas across the towel, bringing the top just below the place for hemstitching. Many border patterns for cross-stitch are found in old magazines. There are Roman

may be wrought in drawn-work pattern. Any pattern that makes a pretty handkerchief lends itself admirably to the pillow-cover. One little woman among my friends is making a good living this fall making covers which the girls have ordered—girls who have been making silk covers of cigar-ribbons or daintily embroidered pillow-covers for Christmas gifts, and will send their gifts with the extra cover.

SILK BAG.—A pretty silk bag is made of Dresden sash-ribbon. Take one and one half yards of the ribbon, and cut enough off the end to cover two pasteboards, which sew together like a pin-ball, for the bottom of the bag. Gather the sash-ribbon around, and sew one edge to the bottom. Take a ribbon of prevailing color to put at the top for a ruffle before gathering it up with the gathering-string or ribbon.

HOUSEWIVES.—Our grandmothers used to make housewives which rolled up and tied with a tape, and many a soldier boy had a substantial linen or coarse cloth one made with pockets for buttons and thread; but our girls of fashion are this year making much prettier ones than those. They are of as beautiful silk or ribbon as can be found. The inside layer is of lining-cloth, with outside and inside of silk. Bind the edges neatly around with ribbon or silk galloon. Toward one end fasten a little silk bag that draws up just as any bag, and at the upper end put the flannel leaves for needles. It is much more quickly made, and things are not always falling out of the bag as they did out of the pockets.

WAYS OF SENDING GIFTS.—Little mysteries are always agreeable. There are pretty ways of sending gifts, however simple the gift may be. That idea was brought forcibly to me by a little happening which has just come to my notice. The young son of a friend is in South America, employed in the electrical-lighting service connected with the mines. His mother received a letter from him a day or two before her birthday, saying that he had not forgotten her birthday, but had sent her a present. He added in the letter, "It is very long, so long it will take more than one ship to bring it; it is not very wide, but it is very English."

The woman's friends had much amusement trying to guess what it could be. At last the daughter of the household guessed that her brother had subscribed for an English magazine, and her guess proved to be correct. The magazine seems many times more valuable for the way of sending. Each time a number comes the whole family and many friends will be reminded



key patterns and flowers and stars and a great variety. After the cross-stitching is done, turn up the hem and finish with hemstitch. From four to six inches above the embroidered hem work the initials in cross-stitch, making the letters large.

PILLOW-COVERS.—The beautiful and dainty pillows need something pretty to protect them and still not hide the work and material entirely. One such cover can be made of brown linen scrim or such as was used in summer waists. The linen

that it came in another of the twelve ships that will bring the year's numbers.

Brighten the package you send away at Christmas with a riddle, a rhyme, a proverb or some odd query.

MARY JOSLYN SMITH.

I was taken with a harsh, dry Cough. I grew steadily worse. My neighbors thought I was going into consumption. I tried Jayne's Expectorant, and was cured.—(Mrs.) W. A. GROVE, Sterling Centre, Maine, Oct. 31, 1895.

Aid digestion with Jayne's Painless Sanative Pills.

IVORY SOAP

99⁴⁴/₁₀₀ per cent PURE

In some of the best hospitals and sanitariums no other soap is allowed for any purpose.

TWO GOOD RECIPES.

SNOWBALLS.—Take the whites of five eggs beaten very light, three fourths of a cupful of powdered sugar, one half cupful of flour and one half teaspoonful of cream of tartar. Take as many jelly-glasses as you wish balls, and into each glass put one tablespoonful of dough, put on the covers, and steam one hour. When done, roll in soft icing made of the white of an egg and powdered sugar, or sugar and cream. Sprinkle grated coconut over them, and serve with cream.

ORANGE PUDDING.—Peel and slice three oranges into small pieces, lay in a dish, and put one half cupful of sugar over them. Make a nice corn-starch of one pint of milk, yolks of two eggs, one tablespoonful of corn-starch stirred up with milk, one tablespoonful of sugar, all beaten together and stirred into scalded milk. Don't have it too thick. Pour while hot over oranges; beat the whites of two eggs, with a teaspoonful of sugar; spread over the top, and set in a quick oven to brown lightly. Bananas may be used with the oranges, or peaches may be used instead of oranges. RUBY.

"BEAUTY FOR ASHES."

To one who is clever with her needle wonderful things are possible; and just at this time, when one ingenious woman is vying with another to devise something of beauty out of comparatively nothing, nothing is more possible than a unique sofa-cushion made from a "huck" towel.

Purchase a linen huck towel twenty inches wide, cut off the border, if there is one, then cut a square the width of towel. If you are gifted with your pencil, trace a conventional design upon this square that is almost as large as the square. If you cannot do this, have one stamped, and outline the design with golden-brown Roman floss. Then, after allowing the width of a good seam, commence at one side, and with bright yellow Roman floss catch up each huck, straight across the cover, that is outside of the design. Continue in straight lines backward and forward until every huck outside of the design has a yellow thread under it. No darning or taking up of hucks is done inside the outline proper; but be careful not to confound spaces left with the design itself. The under side of cushion is made of the plain toweling.

Of course, other colors are equally effective, and make most pleasing and inexpensive sofa-cushions.

The cushion here illustrated may be finished with a double yellow silk ruffle, a yellow cord, or simply seamed up and a large golden-brown bow confined over one corner. NANNIE HANGER.

THE THREADED NEEDLE.

One morning my little Walter, in his haste to get ready for school, tore one of the buttonholes of his blouse waist.

It would have been real vexations for the little fellow to have waited for mama to hunt up and thread a needle, find a thimble and scissors before being able to repair the tear.

But he did not feel the loss of time from his play, for I merely took a few steps, got down a needle already threaded, and quickly had the buttonhole as good as new.

Having needles about already threaded is one of the greatest little helps I know of. They should be found in every bedroom, dressing-room and kitchen.

I always keep a needle-case book conveniently hanging in my kitchen. It contains a narrow tape stitched across, for thimbles, which is very handy. By its side hangs a "handy pocket" containing thread and a few buttons, the kinds

which are most generally required on a moment's notice. Scissors are suspended from one of the little nails holding up the pockets. Here they are all together and always ready.

We housekeepers should endeavor to carry out this "threaded-needle" idea in all departments of housework.

A little planning aforetime will save many weary steps and needless worry and hurry. E. B. SIMMONS.

The \$200 Prize

OFFERED FOR THE BEST POEM ON

CEYLON AND INDIA TEA

has been awarded to a lady living in Derby, Conn., concealing her identity under the nom-de-plume of T. Caddy. It will be published and a copy will be sent to each contestant.

Over 5,000 poems were received, many of which were excellent, but the majority of writers lost sight of the strict conditions laid down, and omitted one or more metaphors.

The object was to get a poem which set forth these facts:

- 1.—That Ceylon and India Tea is PURE. A teaspoonful was mentioned, as that quantity is enough for an ordinary tea-pot.
- 2.—That to make the tea properly, the water must be absolutely boiling.
- 3.—That five minutes' infusion is all that is needed.
- 4.—That the tea is wholesome and free from bitterness.
- 5.—That it may be drunk with or without sugar or cream.
- 6.—In teas from all other countries, the manufacture is entirely by the crude, ancient and unclean hand-rolling process.

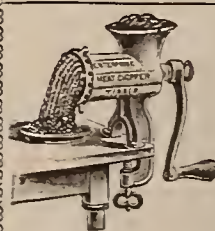
In China and Japan Prussian blue and other deleterious substances are used for coloring, which, with other adulterations, make nerve disturbing decoctions.

The leaf of India and Ceylon Tea is of marvelous strength. It is picked every ten days, and, after "withering," is then rolled and manufactured entirely by machinery especially designed to eliminate all chance of contact with impurities by touch of the human hand, HENCE CLEANLINESS AND PURITY, COMBINED WITH FLAVOR AND STRENGTH.

These are the great desiderata, and can be found only in the machine manufactured teas of India and Ceylon; the only countries where tea is made exclusively by machinery.

No coloring matter or adulterant of any kind is used in their preparation. Their fine flavor is the natural bouquet, and is not artificial.

One Good Turn



deserves another. When you turn the handle of the Enterprise Meat Chopper you are rewarded with a surprising amount of work well done in a few seconds. It saves money, time and food. Is easily operated and easily cleaned. Use the

Enterprise MEAT CHOPPER

for making sausage and scrapple; for preparing hash, mince-meat, Hamburg steak, suet, tripe, cod-fish, clams, scrap meat for poultry; corn for fritters, etc. Improved for 15 years; now perfected. Sold by all dealers in hardware. Small family size No. 5, \$2.00. Chops 1 lb. a minute. Large family size No. 10, \$3.00. Chops 2 lbs. a minute.

THE ENTERPRISE MFG. CO. OF PA., Philadelphia.

Send 4 cents in stamps for the "Enterprising Housekeeper"—200 recipes.

GIFTS FOR GENTLEMEN.

It is none too early to begin our Christmas-gift making if we would not be over-worked at the last, or have to purchase gifts instead of making them; for a present fashioned by one's own hands is always more highly valued than one purchased.

A BICYCLE-BOOK.—This is designed to record pleasant incidents connected with cycling, and is a unique gift which any cyclist will value. Procure a dozen or more sheets of heavy unruled note-paper. Cut two pieces of cardboard a trifle larger than the paper; lay them side by side, with a space of twice the thickness of the cardboard between them. Cut two pieces of gray linen large enough to cover both and also to allow for a seam all around; then cut one piece, to be used for the lining of this cover, in two in the center. On one half of the long piece trace a bicycle, and outline it with Asiatic twisted embroidery-silk in black or green. In quaint letters embroider in Asiatic filo silk a motto, such as "Happy hours a wheel," "Pleasant recollections," "Good times with the bike," or something suggestive.

On one of the smaller pieces embroider the name of the recipient, and the date. Baste the pieces carefully together, seam them on the sewing-machine, and turn so that the figure will come on what will be the front of the book-cover, the name on the inside and the opening on the inside. Slip the pieces of cardboard in place, and draw the opening together by tiny stitches. Open the sheets of paper, lay them inside the cover, and with an awl make two holes through the paper and cover, one about an inch from each end. Have ready a cord made from several strands of the twisted embroidery-silk, pass this through the holes to the back, bring them together in the center, and tie in a double bow-knot; add small tassels of the silk as a finish.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

THINGS FOR CHRISTMAS.

Busy needles are already at work—many of them have been all summer—on dainty and beautiful things destined to be given away at Christmas. Indeed, if Time were not thus taken "by the forelock" in these matters, Santa Claus' knapsack would fall far short of the required dimensions.

Among some of the articles both pretty and useful which will go to make up its contents next Christmas are book-covers, diaries, note-books, "wheel-books," recipe-books. Fashion has decreed that each shall be clothed in its special hand-made covering. These covers are made of linen, and one can choose among a variety of colors, the most popular of which are gray, buff, salmon-pink and white.

Some of the covers can be detached, and thus be made useful for different books; others are intended to remain where they are at first placed. Detachable covers are more suitable for books with stiff bindings, and these are generally made with two inside pockets, into which the book-covers are slipped. If book and cover together form the gift, it is well to embroider upon the latter the title of the book, and in one corner the initials of the friend for whom it is intended.

For books with soft bindings the linen cover should be stretched over stiff cardboard with an interlining of flannel, or some other material thick and soft; the edges must then be turned in, and either pasted down or finished with some fanciful stitch in embroidery-silk.

A home-made recipe-book is a useful and appropriate gift for a friend who is planning a home of her own. This should be made from a note-book with a stiff binding, bought for the purpose. The cover should be of gray linen, without a lining, and should be detachable, as it will undoubtedly see good service and require washing. Instead of a title embroider a motto—some quotation suggesting the purpose of the book; as, "She looketh well to the ways of her household," "Civilized man cannot live without cooks," "Oh, hour of all hours most blessed upon earth—blessed hour of our dinners!" Any one of these is appropriate, and there are many others equally so.

The contents of a book of this kind should be made up of home recipes, thoroughly tested, with space allowed for those which from time to time the owner may wish to add thereto.

Bicycle note-books, or "wheel-books," are quoted as being quite the rage, and will

no doubt be popular as Christmas gifts. These are designed to contain memoranda of interesting incidents connected with bicycle trips. The linen cover for these books should at once suggest the use of the latter, the wheel being in one way or another, or in many ways, represented upon it. Care must be taken to use the proper colors of silk in embroidering the different parts of the wheel.

Hand-made frames for photographs were in great demand last holiday-time, it being almost impossible to find pretty ones in the stores. I have seen two, destined to be given away next Christmas, which are beautiful. These are of plain, thick silk, one pure white, the other a pale buff or distinct cream color. Upon the former is embroidered pink sweet-peas; upon the latter, forget-me-nots. After the embroidery was completed it was laid upon a piece of soft flannel, and an opening through both was made in the center for the photograph. A similar opening is then made in a piece of thin cardboard, upon which the silk is firmly mounted. This cardboard and the piece of flannel must be of equal size and must correspond with the intended size of the frame when finished; but an allowance must be made in the silk, that the edges may be neatly turned back and pasted upon the cardboard. Another piece of stout cardboard then covers the back, upon which is fastened the standard that supports the frame. The two layers of cardboard should be pasted together around the edges only, that the photograph may be slipped between them.

It is needless to add that frames of this kind require great neatness and skill in the making. Pretty ones can be made, however, without embroidery, in the same way, from silk having light ground, delicately figured.

L. A. W.

STYLES IN NOTES AND STATIONERY.

A fashionable shade in letter-paper this fall is a delicate, misty tint called royal gray, and in shape, dainty square sheets, such as the Clarice and Beatrice appear. The Early English is the richest paper shown, but handsome plate-paper, kid finish and Agawam bond are also desirable.

Misses' cards are smaller this season, being cut two and one fourth by three inches. Ladies' cards are three and one half by two and three fourths inches. When sent to afternoon teas or receptions they should be inclosed in envelopes to fit them; a tiny card in a large envelop looks rather ridiculous.

Wax, though shown in all the new and fashionable shades, is little used. The latest monograms are very modest in size and set in a round die. The address, which gives style and finish to the heading of a letter, is in script or plain lettering.

Informal notes of invitation and acceptance are worded as follows:

MY DEAR MRS. MOORE:—

If disengaged, will you come to luncheon with us Wednesday next, at two o'clock? We shall be very glad to see you. Believe me,

Sincerely yours,

HARRIET BROWN.

MY DEAR MRS. BROWN:—

I shall be most happy to accept your kind invitation to luncheon with you on Wednesday next.

Cordially yours,

MARTHA M. MOORE.

Few stop to think how much may be revealed in one of these butterfly society notes, but in reality the handsome quality of the stationery, the clear handwriting, the careful, courteous wording, all speak volumes of early education, refined feeling and true nobility of character.

FRANCES BENNETT CALLAWAY.

A FEW WELL-TRIED RECIPES.

SPONGE-CAKE.—Whites of eight eggs, two cupfuls of white sugar, one cupful of well-washed butter, one cupful of sweet milk, and one teaspoonful of soda and two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar sifted into two cupfuls of flour and one cupful of corn-starch. Beat the butter to a cream, and then beat in the flour; beat the whites of eggs to a stiff froth, and beat the sugar into that; into this stir the milk, then add the two mixtures, and flavor with lemon or vanilla, as desired. This can be baked in a loaf, but it is better baked in layers, between which is spread boiled frosting, with almonds pounded to a paste mixed into it, or with a spread of whipped cream between the layers.

SPONGE-CAKE.—Seven eggs, two cupfuls of granulated sugar, two cupfuls of sifted flour, two thirds of a cupful of cold water, flavor to taste, one tablespoonful of baking-powder. Beat the yolks of the eggs and the sugar to a cream, add the water, then the flour; beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth, and beat in lightly the very last thing. Bake in a moderate oven.

DOUGHNUTS.—Mix one cupful each of milk and granulated sugar in a mixing-bowl, and stir until dissolved; stir in three well-beaten eggs. Take two quarts of flour and three heaping teaspoonfuls of baking-powder sifted together; mix the whole into a soft dough, using as little flour in manipulating it as possible. Cut into rings, and fry in very hot lard. Mixing the sugar and milk first keeps the dough from absorbing grease, and avoiding the use of a great deal of flour in working with the dough makes the cakes puffy and delicate.

A. E. V.

SHELL-FISH.

In these days when meat reigns almost supreme in the household, and the housewife wonders "what to cook next," the various kinds of shell-fish occasionally prove an agreeable change.

SCALLOPED OYSTERS.—Wash out of the liquor two quarts of oysters; pound very fine eight soft crackers, or grate a stale loaf of bread; butter a deep dish, sprinkle in a layer of crumbs, then a layer of oysters, a little pepper and a piece of butter; another layer of crumbs, another of oysters, then seasoning as before, and so on until the dish is filled; cover the dish over with bread-crumbs, seasoning as before. Turn over it a cupful of the oyster liquor. Set it in the oven for thirty or forty minutes to brown.

DEVELOPED CRABS.—One cupful of crab-meat picked from shells of well-boiled crabs, two tablespoonfuls of fine bread-crumbs or rolled cracker, yolks of two hard-boiled eggs chopped, juice of a lemon, one half teaspoonful of mustard, a little cayenne pepper and salt, one cupful of good drawn butter. Mix one spoonful of crumbs with chopped crab-meat, yolks, seasoning and drawn butter. Fill scallop-shells—large clam-shells will do, or shells of crabs or small patty-pans—with the mixture, sift crumbs over the top, and heat to slight browning in a quick oven.

SOFT-SHELL CRABS.—Dry them, and sprinkle with pepper and salt; roll them first in flour, then in egg and then in cracker-dust; fry in boiling-hot butter or lard.

FRIED LOBSTER.—Lobster may be cut into slices, dipped into eggs and crumbs or rolled cracker, and fried in hot lard.

STEWED LOBSTER.—Take one half pint of milk, and stir into it enough flour to make it quite thick; put it on the fire until it boils; remove, and stir in quite a large piece of butter. Chop the lobster, and season to taste with salt, vinegar and pepper; then put in the dressing and let it simmer on the stove.

SCALLOPS.—Boil them, and then take out of the shells; pick out the hearts, as that is the only part fit to eat. Dip them in flour, and fry brown in hot lard. They can be stewed by adding a little water, salt and pepper and a piece of butter.

OYSTER PANCAKES.—Take equal quantities of oyster-juice and milk; put a pint of flour to a pint of the mixed liquor, two well-beaten eggs, salt to taste; then add oysters. Take a large spoonful, drop into hot lard, and cook until brown.

LOBSTER CHOPS.—This is a very dainty dish, and one which will be a favorite with the lover of the lobster. After your lobster is boiled, take the meat from the shell and chop it fine. Season with salt, white and cayenne pepper to taste. Beat two eggs well, add three tablespoonfuls of cream or milk, and mix with the lobster. Also stir in a little cracker-dust, enough to make the same of sufficient consistency to mold readily. Shape the same carefully into the form of a mitten-chop. Then roll these chops into eggs and cracker-dust, and fry as you would chicken croquettes. They can be served dry or with a cream sauce.

EMMA LOUISE HAUCK.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

I will do any kind of Xmas shopping, parties paying express charges. Address Christie Irving, 120 Maple Ave., Springfield, Ohio.

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The Modern STOVE POLISH.

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Try it on your Cycle Chain.
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to wash as clean as can be done on the washboard, even to the wristbands and collar of the dirtiest shirt, and with much more ease. This applies to Terriff's Perfect Washer, which will be sent on trial at wholesale price. If not satisfactory, money will be refunded. Agents wanted. For exclusive territory, terms & prices, write Portland Mfg. Co., Box 4, Portland, Mich.



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PRICE REDUCED TO ONLY \$7.50.

Has an established reputation as a RAPID SEAMLESS KNITTER. Knits everything required in the household from homespun or factory, wool or cotton yarns. The original and only reliable low priced knitting machine. A model of simplicity. A Child Can Operate It. Over 20,000 in use. Satisfaction guaranteed. To Secure Agents, and a more extended sale, if you send me \$2.00 I will ship the machine by express C. O. D. You can pay the balance (\$5.50) on receipt of machine. Don't miss this unparalleled offer, as a standard machine has never before been sold at this low price. Address, GEARHART MACHINE CO., BOX 21, CLEARFIELD, PA.



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Send on trial 20 days free. Not one cent in advance. If O. K. pay us, if not return at our expense; no other terms or conditions. \$60 Beauty see cut for \$25. 20 other styles \$9 to Cabinets \$32. Also Buggies, Harness, all Farm Implements and 1000 other articles. Drop us a card. Ask your bank to look us up. HAPGOOD PLOW CO., Box 432, Alton, Ill. The only plow factory in U. S. selling direct to the consumer.



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Can buy a WORLD'S WASHER on trial and no money paid until it is perfectly satisfactory. Washes easy. Clothes clean, sweet and white as snow. Child can use it. I pay freight. Circulars free. C. E. ROSS, 10 Clean St., Lincoln, Ill.



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In clothes washed with the "EASY BEE WASHER." 100 pieces in one hour and no hard work done. That's the record. AGENTS WANTED. Exclusive sale. Write for terms. Lake Erie Mfg. Co., 116 E. 13 St., Erie, Pa.

BOY WANTED

(or girl) in every school in U. S. \$5 to \$30 clear during school term. \$5 cleared very Saturday. Men and women clear \$1000 yearly. No capital required. Sample and instructions 1cc.

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Our Latest Catalogue of CUT PAPER PATTERNS of up-to-date styles for Fall and Winter Dresses sent free upon request.

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Catalogue of Speakers, Dialogues, Plays, Drills, Teachers' Aids, Letter Writers, Amusements, Fortune Tellers, Dream books, etc. Dick & Fitzgerald, 23 Ann St., N. Y.

MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE SIN OF OMISSION.

It isn't the thing you do, dear,
It's the thing you leave undone
That gives you a bit of a heartache
At the setting of the sun.
The tender word forgotten;
The letter you did not write;
The flower you did not send, dear,
Are your haunting ghosts at night.

The stone you might have lifted
Out of your brother's way.
The bit of heartsome counsel
You were hurried too much to say;
The loving touch of the hand, dear,
The gentle, winning tone
Which you had no time or thought for
With troubles enough of your own.

These little acts of kindness
So easily out of mind,
Those chances to be angels
Which we poor mortals find—
They come in night and silence,
Each sad, reproachful wraith.
When hope is faint and flagging
And a chill has fallen on faith.

For life is all too short, dear,
And sorrow is all too great
To suffer our slow compassion
That tarries until too late;
And it isn't the thing you do, dear,
It's the thing you leave undone
Which gives you the bit of a heartache
At the setting of the sun.

—Margaret E. Sangster.

PREVALENCE OF CRIME.

MUCH is said about the increase of crime, in a general way; but it gives one a more vivid sense of the evil to come down to facts and figures in some particular locality, especially when that locality does not bear the distinction of being uncommonly vicious, but may be taken as a fair representation of conditions prevailing in all other portions of the country.

On May 2d the Ethical Society of St. Louis was addressed by Mr. W. L. Sheldon, on the subject of "Crime, and What Is to Be Done About It." The speaker prepared himself for his address by visiting the police stations and courts during the week previous; and he speaks particularly of the condition of the criminal classes in St. Louis, and mostly of what took place there in only one week. From an abstract of his discourse, given in the St. Louis "Globe Democrat" of May 3d, we quote the following:

"Do you realize that over twenty-four thousand arrests were made in St. Louis by our police last year; that more than one hundred thousand cases during the previous years have come before our police or criminal courts; that last week there were two hundred and seventy-nine inmates at the jail, most of them awaiting trial; that we have three police courts holding their sessions every day excepting Sunday; that we spend in this city more than nine hundred thousand dollars a year for the police; that we have a house of refuge and a workhouse, both of which institutions are always crowded to overflowing; that crime is always in our midst; that early every morning, day after day, year after year, a huge van drives up at the Four Courts, out of which there files a line of men and women to be stowed away in the cells while they await trial; that we have a reformatory for boys at Boonville, in Missouri; that there were this last week two thousand one hundred and fifty-seven inmates in our state penitentiary; and that in the year 1890 there were over eighty-two thousand inmates in the prisons of the United States?"

St. Louis was reported in the census of 1890 as having 451,770 inhabitants. The number of arrests stated above would give one arrest for every twenty of the people of that city. That is a startling statement. But St. Louis is probably not any more wicked than other cities; in some cases not so much so. And what a picture, at this ratio, would be given us of the whole country, had we the figures!—Advent Review and Herald.

A GREAT LIFE.

Do not try to do some great thing or you may waste all your life waiting for the opportunity which may never come. But since little things are always claiming your attention, do them as they come, from a great motive, for the glory of God, to win his smile of approval, and to do good to men. It is harder to plod on in obscurity acting thus than to stand in the high

places of the field, within the view of all, and do deeds of valor at which rival armies stand still to gaze. But no such act goes without the swift recognition and the ultimate recompense of Christ. To fulfill the duties of your station; to use to the uttermost the gifts of your ministry; to bear the chafing annoyances and trivial irritations as martyrs bore the pillory and stake; to find the one noble trait in people who try to molest you; to put the kindest construction on unkind acts and words; to love with love of God even the unthankful and evil; to be content to be a fountain in the midst of a wild valley of stones, nourishing a few lichens and wild flowers, or now and again a thirsty sheep, and to do this always, and not for the praise of man, but for the sake of God—this makes a great life.—F. B. Meyer.

THE BIBLE FIRST.

Whatever other books you read or neglect to read, let me entreat you to give yourselves thoroughly and systematically to the mastery of that which is the oldest, the greatest and the best of all—the Bible. Our literature owes more to it than to any other, and however literary we may be, we shall only enjoy it the more. Here are the earliest histories, the noblest lyrics, the loftiest philosophy, the most honest biographies, and the most earnest letters that were ever penned. And besides all these other attractions here is the portrayal of perfect life, the exposition of true religion, and the proclamation of the only atonement for the sins of men. Other books are trees of knowledge, bearing a mixture of good and evil on their branches; this is the tree of life, whose very leaves are for the healing of the nations.—William M. Taylor.

A HOLY LIFE.

A holy life is made up of a number of small things. Little words, not eloquent speeches or sermons; little deeds, not one great heroic act of martyrdom, make up the true Christian life. The little, constant sunbeam, not the lightning; the waters of Siloam, "that go softly" in the meek mission of refreshment, not the "waters of the river great and many," rushing down in noisy torrents, are the true symbols of a holy life. The avoidance of little evils, little sins, little inconsistencies, little weaknesses, little follies, indiscretions and imprudences, little foibles, little indulgences of the flesh, go far to make up, at least, the negative beauty of a holy life.

SERVICE HAS ETERNAL LIFE.

Service has eternal life. Deeds never die. Men pass away, but their acts live forever. The only part of a life that endures on earth after the flesh has become dust, and after marble monuments have crumbled into decay, is that part which has been put into other lives through deeds of loving service. And every bit of ministration done in life will be manifest in heaven. Each "cup of cold water" will help swell the river the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God.—Forward.

CURES RHEUMATISM, ETC.

A RECENT DISCOVERY THAT IS WORKING WONDERS.

The most prevailing affliction that for a century has been engaging the most scientific skill of the medical world are rheumatism, neuralgia, catarrh, asthma, la grippe and their kindred ailments. The country is full of sufferers from these complaints. Although the most learned experts of the medical profession have labored for a century to produce a curative, until quite recently no positive results were effected. To the Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., 167-69 Dearborn street, Chicago, belongs the credit for having produced the new remedy. It is being extensively advertised under the trade mark of "Five Drops." The trade mark is self-explanatory. Five drops make a dose. The effect is magical. In days gone by other alleged cures have been marketed with the promise to take effect in thirty days or more. Five Drops begins to cure at once. Immediate relief is felt. In order to more effectively advertise its merits the company will for the next thirty days send out 100,000 of their 25-cent sample bottles of this positive cure for 25 cents a bottle. Those suffering should take immediate advantage of this generous offer and write them to-day.

FOR 30 DAYS YOU CAN TRY IT FOR 25 CENTS.

Their Marvelous
CURE BY**5 DROPS**

[TRADE MARK.]

We claim and can prove our statement that more cures have been effected by all "FIVE DROPS" during the last two years than all other remedies combined. It cannot fail. More than 1,000,000 People Cured. As a positive cure for Rheumatism, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Dyspepsia, Backache, Asthma, Hay Fever, Catarrh, Sleeplessness, Nervousness, Nervous and Neuralgic Headaches, Heart Weakness, Toothache, Earache, Croup, Swelling, La Grippe, Malaria, and permanent cure. Though free from opiates and perfectly harmless, "5 DROPS" is the most concentrated and powerful specific known. No disease is too deeply rooted or painful to yield to this wonderful medicine and relief is usually felt the very first night. What it has already done to relieve suffering humanity is told in letters of grateful praise from thousands of hearts once sickened and heavy with pain, now painless and happy.

Gentlemen:—I can hardly find words to express my gratitude for what your "5 DROPS" has done for me. I have taken but one bottle of the medicine, and I feel like a new person. I have taken all kinds of medicines, but altogether did not do me as much good as the first dose of your "5 DROPS." I recommended your medicine to one of my neighbors and it helped him right away. He had been using medicines and doctoring, but nothing seemed to do him any good. I believe the Lord has sent your medicine, and if they will only have faith, it will cure them of their rheumatism. I almost believe it would bring a dead man to life again; such is my faith in the medicine. I am now 96 years of age. Very respectfully yours, C. H. B. CROSBY, Bowers Hill, Va.

"FIVE DROPS" taken but once a day is a dose of this great remedy, and to enable all sufferers to make a trial of its wonderful curative properties we will send out during the next thirty days 100,000 25-cent sample bottles for 25 cents each, prepaid by mail—send to-day. Even a sample bottle will convince you of its merit. Best and cheapest medicine on earth. Large bottle (300 doses) \$1.00. Not sold by druggists, only by us and our agents. Agents wanted in new territory. Write us to-day.

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The FAMILY SAFEGUARD is warranted to break a Cold, Fever, Influenza, beginning of Pneumonia or Rheumatism in 24 hours. Safe for infants. Corroborative statements of eminent people with it. The largest sale ever known. For your vest pocket. One bottle prevents 325 colds after exposure. Wrap a quarter in paper and mail it at our risk. A. THOMPSON, M. D., 1002 N. Broadway, St. Louis, 68 Beverly St., Boston, and 134 W. Broadway, N. Y.

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STEM WIND AND SET. CUT THIS OUT and send it to us with your name and address and we will send you this beautiful gold finished watch, by express for examination. You examine it at the express office and if you think it a bargain pay our sample price \$3.50 and express charges and it is yours. It is magnificent, engraved and equal in appearance to a genuine Solid Gold watch. A guaranteed beautiful gold plate chain and charm sent free with every watch. Write today; this may not appear again; mention whether you want gent's or ladies' size. NATIONAL MFG. & IMPORTING CO., 334 Dearborn St., B-29 Chicago

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NEW Big winner for Winter season canvassing. Nothing Like It. Bookmen, lady agents, etc., get extra chance. Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick, Springfield, Ohio.

CATARRH ABSOLUTELY CURED with pleasant Home Remedies. Persons suffering with this troublesome, dangerous and disgusting disease should write for free treatment. H. M. ASS'N, 4601 Champlain Ave., Chicago.

A BIG OFFER 50c. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you will hang up in the P. O. or some public place, the two show bills that we send, we will give you a 50c. cert., and send it in advance with samples and bills. This will trouble you about one minute, and then if you want to work on salary at \$50 or \$100 per month, let us know. We pay in advance. GIANT OXIE CO., 126 Willow St., Augusta, Me.

CANNABIS INDICA The Great East India Remedy Imported by Craddock & Co., 1032 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. Is warranted to cure Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma and Nasal Catarrh \$2.50 per bottle; 3 bottles, \$6.50.

I WANT A MAN
In every city or township to look after my business, on salary or commission; steady work and liberal pay the year round. One man cleared \$140.45 last week. Places for a few ladies. Don't delay or bother to send stamps, but write at once to J. W. JONES, Springfield, Ohio.

A MONEY MAKER. A HOME ENTERTAINER.
THE EDISON GRAPHOPHONE TALKING MACHINES DOWN TO \$10.00. All the latest Music, Songs, Speeches or your own voice. Complete Outfits, consisting of Machine with automatic spring motor which runs two records with one winding; Hearing Tubes, Concert Horn, 12 Musical or Talking Records, Large size Show Bills, Admission Tickets, etc., for \$15.25. An opportunity to make big money easy by public entertainments. Just the thing for church and Sunday school entertainments. Anyone can operate them. Send for Free Catalogue of Graphophones, Records, etc. Or by sending ONE DOLLAR we will send the outfit by express C. O. D. subject to examination, balance payable when received. SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., (Inc.) CHICAGO, ILL.

FREE WATCH
For lady or gent, stem-wind, stem set, American movement, heavy plate. Written guarantee to equal for time any SOLID GOLD WATCH made. No fake, this is an honest offer to place our wonderful Remedies with in the reach of all. We will give this watch free to every person who will sell only 6 boxes of our vegetable pills, and 6 boxes of our positive corn cure among their friends at 25 cts. per box. If you agree to do this, write to-day & we will send the goods by mail, when sold you send us the money & we will send watch same day money is received. PURA CO., 80 W. 13th Street, New York City.

One in a Thousand....
WANTED—One thousand canvassers for the most elegant and popular work of its kind in existence. New \$10 book that sells for only \$2.50 or \$4, according to binding, and outsells everything else in standard literature.

"American Women"
Comprises 828 Royal Quarto, double-column pages, and contains 1,570 Biographies, representing every walk in life. Embellished with over 1,400 Fine Portraits, with about 40 Full-page, exquisitely beautiful Portrait Groupings. Sold only through Agents. On account of its surpassing value, richness of illustration and singularly low price, this regal volume affords the largest profits of the season, and the most easily earned. Terms the most liberal. For particulars, including "Easy Way" and "Special Advantages," with over one dozen Specimen Portraits and Portrait Groupings, address at once MAST, CROWELL & KIRKPATRICK, Springfield, O.

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Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water
If afflicted with SORE EYES

AN AGENT WANTED

In every town and neighborhood to solicit subscriptions for the **Woman's Home Companion**

Extra liberal commissions, and special helps furnished, including the most successful premiums. Good income assured workers. Write at once for terms and sample copies. Supplies free. Address

Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home. Law College, Lima, O.

AGENTS WANTED. Free samples. Cash coms. Several earn over \$1,000 yearly. P. O. 1371, New York.

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\$8 PAID Per 100 for Distributing Samples of Washing Fluid. Send 6c. stamp. A. W. SCOTT, Cohoes, N. Y. When writing mention Farm and Fireside.

ELECTRICAL Bicycle, and Photo. Novelties, low prices, 100 page cat. **FREE** M. E. S. CO., 32 Cortlandt St., N. Y.

SALESMEN WANTED to sell to dealers. \$100 monthly and expenses. Experience unnecessary. Enclose stamp. Acme Cigar Co. Chicago

\$8 PER 100 paid for your neighbors names and addresses. Send 10c. for book and instructions. Agents Supply Co., 134 L Van Buren, Chicago, Ill.

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700 Sample Styles of Silk Fringe Cards, Hidden Name Cards, Love Cards, Scrap Pictures, Games, Puzzles, Album Verses, The Star Puzzle, The 13 Puzzle, and Agents Sample Album for later sale. Send a two cent stamp for postage. Banner Card Co., CADIZ, OHIO.

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RUBBER GOODS and Mail Order Supplies. Quick sales; big profits to Agents. Catalogue free. Mrs. M. O. Carpenter, "L", 136 Van Buren St., Chicago, Ills.

650 NEW STYLE CARDS, &c. FOR 1898 100 Rich and Racy Jokes, 15 Versions of Love, Language of Flowers and Precious Stones, Standard Beau Catcher, and how to make \$10 a day at home, ALL FOR 2 CENTS. Address, CROWN CARD CO., Box 24, CADIZ, OHIO.

\$10 TO \$50 Per Day for AGENTS who will work a few hours a day or evening. No experience required. You may make a FORTUNE in a year. If you rent, lease or sell our new money-makers. Send 10c. for Agents' Adviser & Guide to Wealth. Ogden & Co., 185 Clark St., Chicago.

\$18 a Week Easy. You work right around home. A brand new thing. No trouble to make \$18 a week easy. Write to us quick, you will be surprised at how easy it can be done. Send us your address anyway. It will be for your interest to investigate. Write today. You can positively make \$18 a week easy. ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., BOX 43, DETROIT, MICH.

LADIES I Make Big Wages At Home and want all to have same opportunity. The work is very pleasant and will easily pay \$18 weekly. This is no deception. I want no money and will gladly send full particulars to all sending 2c. stamp. Miss M. E. Stebbins, Lawrence, Mich.

GOLD RINGS FREE! We will give one half-ronnd Ring, 18k Rolled Gold plate & warranted to anyone who will sell 1 doz. Indestructible Lamp Wicks (need no trimming) among friends at 10c. each. Write us and we will mail you the Wicks. You sell them and send us the money and we will mail you the Ring. STAR CHEMICAL CO., Box 455, Centerbrook, Conn.

OUR GIANT ALMANAC Farm and Fireside's Giant Almanac and Annual Reference Book (450 pages) will be ready for delivery during the first week in January, 1898. It will be an absolutely reliable authority on political, agricultural, commercial, financial, educational, religious and miscellaneous subjects and statistics in general. Price, with Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents. Send orders now. First come, first served.

METEOR BALLOONS. Wonderful home entertainers. Beautiful parlor fireworks, entirely safe. They rise to ceiling and descend as shown in cut. As specimens of our 3,000 bargains we send 10 of them postpaid with catalogue for only 10c.; 30 for 25c.; 100 for 75c. ROBT. H. INGERSOLL & BRO., 65 Cortlandt St. Dept. No. 16, N. Y. City.

A GIFT AT THE PRICE! Having recently purchased the entire stock of watches from a bankrupt firm, consisting of solid gold, silver and gold-filled cases, we shall offer a portion of the entire lot at prices never before heard of in the watch trade. Among the stock are 8,780 AMERICAN STYLE WATCHES, in 14k SOLID GOLD-FILLED CASES which we shall sell singly or by the dozen to private parties or the trade, at the unheard-of LOW PRICE of \$3.98 EACH. Each and every watch is guaranteed a perfect timekeeper, and each watch is accompanied with our written guarantee for 20 years. Think of it! A genuine American Style Movement watch, in solid gold-filled case, and guaranteed for 20 YEARS, for \$3.98. Those wanting a first-class, reliable time-keeper, at about one-third retail price, should order at once. Watch speculators can make money by buying by the dozen to sell. All are elegantly finished, and guaranteed perfectly satisfactory in every respect. Cut this out and send to us and we will send a watch to you C. O. D., subject to examination, by express. If found perfectly satisfactory, and exactly as represented, pay \$3.98 and it is yours, otherwise you do not pay one cent. Can we make you a fair offer? Be sure to mention whether you want ladies' or gent's size watch. Price \$42.00 per dozen. Address, **SAFE WATCH CO., 9 Murray Street, New York.**

Smiles.

A RELENTLESS QUESTION.

There's a phrase that keeps haunting wherever you turn,
A mockery subtle and cold;
No matter for what your ambition may yearn,
Nor how honest its purpose and bold,
Hope withers away like the rose that has died
At the pitiless touch of the frost.
Like a specter through glorious dreams it will glide—
The query, "How much'll it cost?"

The laborer turns from his visions of cheer
To his toil that is ever the same;
One nabob is calm 'neath another's bland sneer,
And the tone of an emperor's claim
Grows mild when he asks if the things he would gain
Are worth what perhaps may be lost;
And the world plods along to the sordid refrain
Of the query, "How much'll it cost?"
—Washington Star.

EACH HAD ONE.

THE MacLean was being examined by his pastor prior to his being admitted to the kirk. It should be noticed here that the MacLean held one Article of Belief not insisted upon dogmatically by any theologian, the MacLean excepted, and this was that his clan was the most ancient in Scotland, and, consequently, in the world. By and by they plunged into the Deluge.

"In the self-same day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Jepheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and three wives of his sons with them, into the ark," quoted the minister. "And all flesh died—"

"Na," interrupted the MacLean, positively, "there was ane ither na drooud."

"The record is explicit, Mr. MacLean," argued the minister, stiffly. "No one was saved but those who went into the ark."

"There was ane ither," reassured the MacLean, imperturbably.

"What do you mean, MacLean?" demanded the minister, explosively. "Whom do you mean?"

"I dinna richtly ken his given name," explained the MacLean, cautiously, "but yon mon was a MacLean."

"Tut, tut, 'man," expostulated the minister. "You very well know that no MacLean went into the ark; so, granting that a MacLean existed, how could he have been saved?"

"Hoot, mon, minister," retorted the MacLean, disdainfully, "did ye iver ken a MacLean who didna own his ane boat?"—Truth.

HIS PLAN.

Before the days of chloroform there was a quack in San Francisco who advertised tooth-drawing without pain. The patient was placed in a chair and a wrench given, when he roared violently.

"I thought you said there was no pain."

"So there is not by my process. That is Cartwright's way. That's the way he does it. It's very different from mine."

Another tug, and a still more violent howl.

"That's the way Dummerge pulls teeth," said the unabashed practitioner. "You don't like it, no doubt. Who would?"

Another twist was given, and the patient, as a rule, howled worse than ever.

"That," the dentist says, "is Parkinson's mode."

By this time the tooth was nearly out.

"I will now," he said, "display my own method," whereupon he triumphantly withdrew the tooth and held it up for inspection.

"You observe that by my truly scientific process there is really no pain whatever."—New York Tribune.

JUST LIKE THEM.

A certain learned professor in New York has a wife and family, but professor-like, his thoughts are always with his books.

One evening his wife, who had been out for some hours, returned to find the house remarkably quiet. She had left the children playing about, but now they were nowhere to be seen.

She demanded to be told what had become of them, and the professor explained that, as they had made a good deal of noise, he had put them to bed without waiting for her or calling a maid.

"I hope they gave you no trouble," she said.

"No," replied the professor, "with the exception of the one in the cot here. He objected a good deal to my undressing him and putting him to bed."

The wife went to inspect the cot.

"Why," she exclaimed, "that's little Johnny Green, from next door."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

AN OMITTED CHAPTER.

"Plato," said Diogenes one day, "have you such a thing as a moukey-wrench?"

"Yes," replied the philosopher; "I got one with my bicycle-kit."

"Just the thing," continued Diogenes; "I would like to borrow it for a short time."

After awhile Plato said to himself:

"I wonder what that old crank wanted to do with my monkey-wrench. I believe I'll hunt him up and see."

And presently Diogenes was found, up back of the Temple of Cybele, working like a blacksmith.

"Here," exclaimed Plato, "what are you trying to do, anyway?"

"I'm trying to put a cyclometer on my tub," said Diogenes; and after that the Athenians ceased to linger upon the crossings when they saw him coming.—Chicago News.

SENATORIAL ENDURANCE.

It is recorded that once Senator Mason propounded a query to Senator Morgan.

"How long could you talk," asked Mason, "on a subject of which you knew absolutely nothing?"

"Well," answered Morgan, with a smile, "if it was a matter about which I knew absolutely nothing, I do not think I could talk more than two days."—Washington Post.

THE STOWAWAYS.

"We're off—"

The little group of tropic spirits nestled closer to the big banana-stem.

"In a bunch!"

And as the fruit-steamer cleared the southern port, merry with the thought that they were sure now of free passage to New York, they made the recesses of the hold echo with the cry: "Ta-ra-ra-rant-n-la!"—Puck.

LANGUAGE.

This conversation was overheard in a railway-car:

"Usen't you to work for the B. & O.?"

"Yes, I used; usen't you?"

"Yes, I used; I thought you used."

Right here in America we have dialects waiting to be coined into money by story-writers with a gift for business.—Life.

MODERNIZED.

"Hurry and clean up before dinner, Henry!" urged Mrs. Wheeler.

Now, twenty years ago a husband so addressed would have washed his face and brushed his hair, but Henry Wheeler didn't. He rushed out into the twilight and cleaned his wheel.—Judge.

AVOIDING RISKS.

Gladys—"Papa's going to give us a check at the wedding instead of a present, Tom."

Tom—"All right; we'll have the ceremony at high noon then, instead of at four o'clock."

Gladys—"Why, what for, dear?"

Tom—"Banks close at three."—Detroit Free Press.

SECRET OF SUCCESS.

Thin boarder—"I don't see how you manage to fare so well at this boarding-house. I have industriously courted the landlady and all her daughters, but I'm half starved."

Fat boarder—"I courted the cook."—New York Weekly.

A HARLEM HUBBY.

"Well, I'm not going to run any such risk, my dear."

"That's just like you, John! Ever since you've got your life insured you've been awfully afraid you'd get killed!"—Harlem Life.

WHOSE, TO BE SURE?

Everett Wrest—"Here's a woman's conference has adopted resolutions denouncing men who let their wives support them."

Manny A. Mann—"The idea! Whose wives, pray, should we let support us?"—Judge.

A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE.

Gabber—"What does your sou do for a living?"

Nabber—"He's a scientific boxer."

Gabber—"A pugilist?"

Nabber—"No; undertaker."

PROFESSIONAL.

"What's the matter with the dog, doctor?"

"Appendicitis."

"Going to operate?"

"No. He is too valuable."—Life.

IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

The boy—"And was silver once a precious metal?"

His father—"Yes; at one time silver was more valuable than coal."—Puck.

SAME DREAM.

Algy—"I dreamt last night that I died."

Ethel—"Yes, your sister told me she heard you crying out for water in your sleep."

TO MOTHERS OF LARGE FAMILIES.

Mrs. Pinkham's Advice Free.

In this workaday world few women are so placed that physical exertion is not constantly demanded of them in their daily life.

Mrs. Pinkham makes a special appeal to mothers of large families whose work is never done, and many of whom suffer and suffer for lack of intelligent aid.

To women, young or old, rich or poor, Mrs. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., extends her invitation of free advice. Oh, women! do not let your lives be sacrificed when a word from Mrs. Pinkham, at the first approach of weakness, may fill your future years with healthy joy.

MRS. A. C. BUHLER, 1123 North Albany avenue, near Humboldt Park, Chicago, Ill., says: "I am fifty-one years old and have had twelve children, and my youngest is eight years old. I have been suffering for some time with a terrible weakness; that bearing-down feeling was dreadful, and I could not walk any distance. I began the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Sanative Wash and they have cured me. I cannot praise your medicine enough."

BEAUTY CORSET FREE

The secret of beauty in face and form sent free to every lady answering this advertisement. If you want a form divine you should get a pair of Beauty Corsets. We give them absolutely free. If you send the correct waist measure we guarantee a perfect fit. Write at once to Beauty Corset Co., Station "O" N.Y. City

THE MAIMED and CRIPPLED RESTORED

Marks' Treatise on Artificial Limbs (544 pages and 800 illustrations) contains valuable information on the subject. A copy of the book will be sent free of charge to those in need, if name, address, and particulars are fully given.

A. A. MARKS, 701 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

VITAL CONES CURE

YOUNG, MIDDLE-AGED AND OLD MEN in all stages of Nervous Exhaustion without internal medicine. Sample package of the best Modern Treatment FREE. Send statement of case, age, and 10c for postage, etc. Address The LaCroix Dispensary Milwaukee, Wis. [Estab. 1867.]

FAT FOLKS reduced 15 lbs. a month, any one can make a remedy at home. Miss M. Ainley, Supply, Ark., says, "I lost 60 lbs. and feel splendid." No starving. No sickness. Sample box, etc., 4c. HALL & CO., Box 404, St. Louis, Mo.

A SAMPLE sufficient to prove that Dr. Hebra's Ungoid is a certain and absolute cure for Itching Piles, Eczema, Tetter, or any other skin disease will be sent to any one for Only Four Cents. THE C. G. BITTNER Co., Toledo, Ohio.

FREE TO BALD HEADS. We will mail on application, free information how to grow hair upon a bald head, stop falling hair, and remove scalp diseases. Address, **Alteneim Medical Dispensary** Dept. J.S., Box 779, Cincinnati, O.

ASTHMA CURED! Dr. Hair's cure has brought happiness to sufferers. A \$1.00 bottle and valuable treatise sent free, you pay the expressage. Address, Dept. 160, **DR. B. W. HAIR, Cincinnati, O.**

CATARRH CURED Send 4c. to J. W. Buchanan, M.D., Smithfield, Ohio, and you will receive by mail one month's treatment. Use it one week, if no change send it back and your money will be returned. This offer to introduce it.

PILES Absolutely cured. Never to return. A Boon to Sufferers. Acts like Magic. Trial box MAILED FREE. Address, **Dr. E. M. BOTOT, Augusta, Maine.**

PILES and **CONSTIPATION** quickly cured. Sufferers will learn of a simple remedy free by addressing **Prof. Fowler, Moodus, Conn.**

CANCER CURED AT HOME No Pain. Book Mailed FREE. MASON CO., 537 A, Fifth Ave., N. Y.

CATARRH CURED IN 20 DAYS. New Remedy. Trial package mailed free. Address, **Dr. R. KIRK, Augusta, Me.**

FITS A Great Remedy Discovered. Send for a FREE package & let it speak for itself. Postage 5c. **DR. S. PERKEY, Chicago, Ills.**

BED-WETTING CURED or no pay. Mrs. B. Rowan, Milwaukee, Wis.

RUPTURE A positive, radical cure at home (Sold). Book giving full particulars sent free. Address **DR. W. S. RICE, Box F, Smithville, Jeff. Co., N. Y.**

Dr. Isaac Thompson's EYE WATER

Our Miscellany.

In eastern Australia 100,000,000 sheep now find sustenance in a region which thirty years ago was a sandy desert. The sheep gradually trampled the soil into firmness, so that it now grows a dense mass of vegetation.

THE new Central Passenger Committee interchangeable mileage ticket will hereafter be good for passage on all through trains on the C. H. & D. and Monon Lines, between Cincinnati and Chicago, in both directions.

In the Pennsylvania experimental agricultural station nine cows were fed exactly alike for 150 days. The value of the product from the best cow in that time was \$64.32. The poorest produced only \$28.06. The profit from the best cow was \$37.65, while the poorest gave a profit of only \$4.55.

JOHN MILLER, of Berkeley county, West Virginia, has just sold his apple crop for a little more than \$20,000. This is the product from thirty-four acres of mountain-land, the assessed value of which is less than \$3 an acre. As a side issue Mr. Miller realized between \$3,000 and \$4,000 from his peach crop. His father, from a much smaller apple orchard, realized between \$8,000 and \$10,000.

SWAPPED COUPLES IN OKLAHOMA.

A sensational case with a funny side is reported from El Reno. A couple arrived at the principal hotel and registered themselves as man and wife. In fact, they were elopers, one having run away from a wife and the other a husband. In the course of a week the injured husband and the injured wife arrived from Kentucky and caused the arrest of the pair. The deserted man and woman had never seen each other before, but while waiting for requisition papers from Kentucky they stopped at the same hotel and formed an acquaintance. Having a common grief, they became interested in each other, and on the day the requisition papers were to arrive they astonished the officers by eloping on their own account, going to Texas, where they are now supposed to be. The first pair of elopers were released from jail, and the Kentucky officer returned home, after informing the local paper that he "hoped a rattlesnake would bite him if he ever traveled a thousand miles again to help a couple of meu trade wives."—Kansas City Journal.

HUNTERS' EXCURSION RATES.

Parties of three or more may secure one-fare rates to designated local points on the line of the Nickel Plate Road, in western Ohio and Indiana; also, single tickets will be sold to points in the Northwest and Southwest.

TALLEST WOMAN IN AMERICA.

Probably the tallest woman in America has just died at the City of Mexico. Her height was six feet nine inches. She was born in the state of Sonora, and was in no way remarkable except for her unusual height. For the last few years she had been a familiar figure on the streets of the capital of Mexico, where she attracted a great deal of attention from all strangers and travelers. She died at the age of 43. Her name was Magdalena Ciente. She was uneducated and spoke the Spanish language with difficulty.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

LAND AND A LIVING

Are best and cheapest in the new South. Land \$3.00 to \$5.00 an acre, easy terms. Good schools and churches. No smutstrokes in summer. No blizzards in winter. Low land-seekers rates via Queen and Crescent Route. Write W. C. Rinearson, G. P. A., Cincinnati, for free books.

AGE OF THE PREMIER.

Care and worry do not seem to shorten the lives of the British premiers. Gladstone by completing his eighty-seventh year has broken the record which was held by Lord Sidmouth, who died past 86. Earl Russell died at the same age; the Duke of Wellington at 82; Lord Palmerston and Earl Grey at 81; Earl of Beaconsfield, 77; Earl of Aberdeen, 76; Earl of Derby, 80; Sir Robert Peel, 62. Gladstone and Sir Robert are the only two premiers who were not peers and did not accept a peerage from the queen.

"BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES" relieve Throat Irritations caused by cold or use of the voice. The genuine sold only in boxes.

LARGE BODY OF TIMBER.

What is said to be the largest individual body of timber now untouched in the United States occupies a large area in Latah and Shoshone counties, in Idaho, about 100 miles southwest of Spokane. The group is estimated to contain, approximately, 2,000,000,000 feet of the finest white pine, and in the neighborhood of 5,000,000,000 feet of other timber, including yellow pine, tamarack, red and white fir and cedar.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

The publishers of "The Youth's Companion" announce so many good things for 1898 that one wonders how room will ever be found for them, to say nothing of the additional stories, sketches, poems and other literary matter which, though not announced, are always provided. But there is a new "Companion" every week, and each of the fifty-two issues gives as much good reading as a 12mo volume of 175 pages. Taking the whole year through, the "Companion" is seen to be a library in itself, providing the contents of fifty-two volumes for the price of one.

Subscribers to the "Companion" for 1898 will find themselves at the end of a year possessed of a library of history written by Mr. Gladstone, Speaker Reed, the Marquis of Lorne, Senator Hoar, Senator Lodge, Justin McCarthy, Captain A. T. Mahan, Henry Watterson, and a dozen other famous men. They will have a library of science contributed by such eminent scientists as Prof. Shaler, Prof. Trowbridge, Prof. Phipps, Dr. William Park, Lient. Wise, John Burroughs and Percival Lowell; and a library of fiction containing stories by Rudyard Kipling, W. D. Howells, Octave Thanet, Frank R. Stockton, Mary E. Wilkins, Mrs. Margaret E. Sangster, Hamlin Garland, Hayden Carruth, Laura E. Richards, Kate Chopin, Cy Warman, Charles G. D. Roberts, and a hundred others.

These are but a few of the many who will give their best efforts to charm, instruct and aid "Companion" readers—to satisfy the tastes and advance the interests of every member of the family. And to this long roll of great writers, the "Companion" has just added the names of eminent specialists, who, re-enforcing the present staff, will regularly contribute unsigned editorials on those subjects which none but the masters of science and industry are competent to treat. The new contributors include Edwin Thomson, the highest authority on applied electricity; Prof. C. A. Young, the famous astronomer; Albert C. Stevens, editor of "Bradstreet's"; President T. C. Mendenhall, Prof. W. T. Sedgwick, and others. Thanks to their co-operation, the "Companion's" editorial page will henceforth be a feature of national importance, exceeded by no other in weight, authority, influence and direct usefulness.

Because the "Companion" has been "for more than seventy years the family's best friend," the publishers do not hesitate to undertake the expense of such a new departure. They know that it will be appreciated and sustained by more than five hundred thousand households to which the "Companion" is a weekly visitor. Together with the many other brilliant novelties announced for 1898, it will make thousands of new friends for the paper—people who wish to keep in touch with the master minds of literature, statesmanship and industry, and who want their children, like themselves, to learn and love the best.

To these new subscribers, the "Companion" is this year offering unusual inducements. Those who subscribe now will receive the "Companion" free up to January 1, 1898, including the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's double numbers, and then continuously to 1899, including the special New Year's number for 1899. Each new subscriber will also receive free the "Companion's" gold-embossed Calendar for 1898, the most artistic and charming souvenir ever presented to "Companion" readers.

Recent Publications.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE OHO DAIRY SCHOOL. Pamphlet describing winter term course in dairying. Free on application to Dean of the College of Agriculture and Domestic Science, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

A SCHOOL HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES. By John Bach McMaster. Professor of American History in the University of Pennsylvania, author of "A History of the People of the United States." Cloth, 12mo., 507 pages. With numerous illustrations, colored maps, diagrams and tables. Price \$1. American Book Company, New York, Cincinnati and Chicago.

AMERICAN SHORT-HORN HERD BOOK.—VOLUME XLII. Containing pedigrees of animals calved before February 1, 1897. Free to stockholders of American Short-horn Breeders' Association, and \$3 a copy to others. Distributed by J. H. Pickrell, Secretary, Springfield, Ill.

TESTING MILK AND ITS PRODUCTS. A manual for dairy students, creamery and cheese-factory operators and dairy farmers. By Prof. E. H. Farington and Prof. F. W. Woll, of the University of Wisconsin. Fully illustrated. Price, in cloth, \$1. Published by Mendota Book Co., Madison, Wis.

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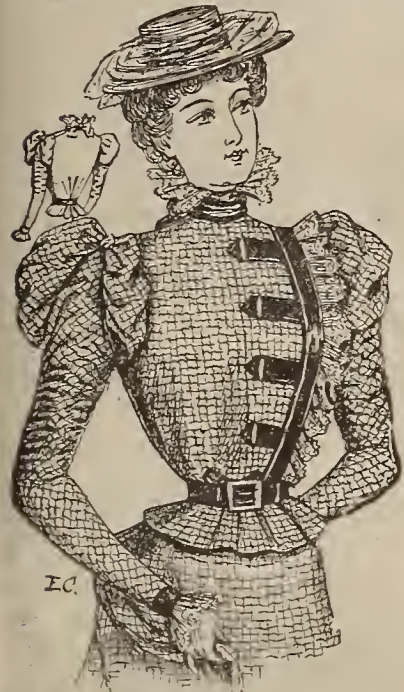
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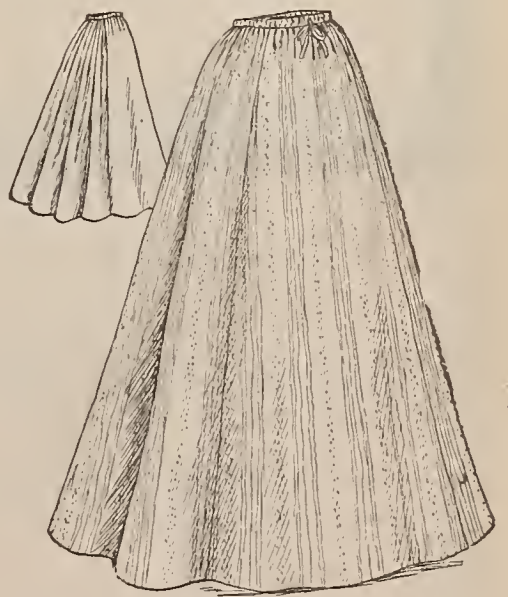
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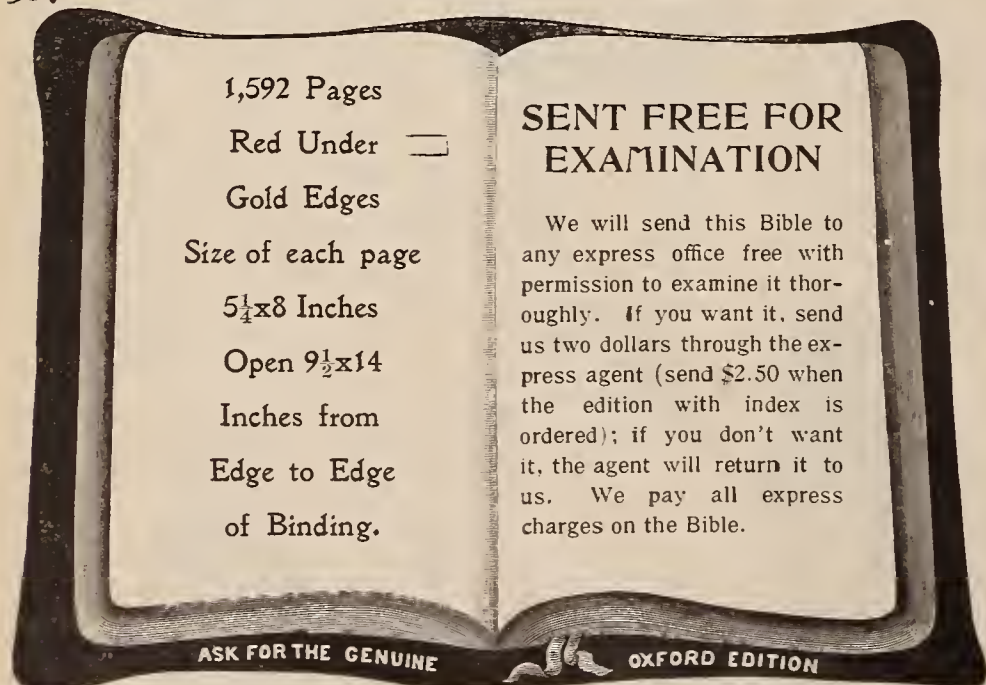
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- I.—Gifts of Charming
- II.—The Secrets of Good Looks
- III.—Grace and Expression
- IV.—Bloom and Fairness
- V.—Hair, the Crowning Glory
- VI.—Training for a Fine Figure
- VII.—Women Bred for Beauty
- VIII.—The Culture of Beauty
- IX.—Toilet Elegancies
- X.—Manicuring
- XI.—Cosmetics and Lotions
- XII.—Things Inquired For
- XIII.—Defects and Annoyances
- XIV.—Different Constitutions
- XV.—Health and Dress
- XVI.—Lovable Faces
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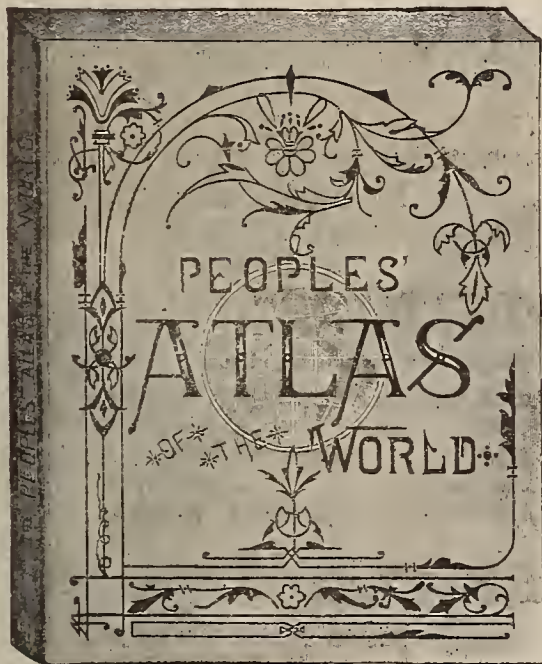
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DECEMBER 1, 1897.

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WITH THE VANGUARD

In an article in the "Forum" for November, on our pro-
posed new sugar industry, Edwin F. Atkins gives the
following statistics:

SUGAR CROP OF THE WORLD 1896-1897, IN TONS.

CANE-SUGAR.

West India Islands and South America.....	1,139,000
United States.....	275,000
Total America.....	1,414,000
Asia.....	782,000
Australia, etc.....	140,000
Sandwich Islands.....	200,000
Egypt, Mauritius, etc.....	290,000
Spain.....	20,000

BEET-SUGAR.

Germany.....	1,845,000
Austria.....	950,000
France.....	750,000
Russia.....	735,000
Belgium.....	295,000
Holland.....	175,000
Other European countries.....	201,000
United States.....	40,000

Total world's production, gross tons.....	4,991,000
Increase over past year, in tons.....	582,760

It is a notable fact that although Cuba's crop fell short
some 800,000 tons, owing to the insurrection, there was an
increase in the world's total production to the extent of
582,760 tons, due to increased production in Europe.

WORLD'S CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR.

Country.	Year ending.	Tons.
United States.....	January 1, 1897	1,960,000
Canada and provinces.....		140,000
Great Britain.....	March 31, 1897	1,494,000
Germany.....	March 31, 1897	594,000
Austria.....	March 31, 1897	343,000
Holland and Belgium.....	March 31, 1897	391,000
France.....	March 31, 1897	555,000
Russia.....		500,000
Other countries of Europe, esti- mated.....		513,000
Total.....		6,490,000
Unaccounted for.....		1,347,000
Total production, as shown in preceding table.....		7,837,000

Of the 1,347,000 tons unaccounted for, much was taken
by countries from which no statistics are obtainable. A
large part, however (254,000 tons), found no market, and
was therefore added to the world's stock of sugar.

"In the face of such oversupply and of ruinous prices,"
says Mr. Atkins, "the United States—the largest consum-
ing country in the world—proposes to establish the new
industry and to produce its own sugar. With the experi-
ence of European countries in artificially fostering an
industry to a point beyond the natural law of supply and
demand, is it wise to enter upon a similar policy?"

After showing that our imports of sugar are largely
paid for by exports of surplus farm products, Mr. Atkins
suggests that, as we enlarge our home production of
sugar, the European countries, unable to sell us their
large surplus of sugar, would turn their attention largely
to the production of such agricultural products as they
are now taking from us; and he asks, "If our farmers
should produce beets at the sacrifice of their market for
wheat, corn, beef, pork products, etc., where would be
the gain?"

It would be sound policy for American farmers to
engage largely in the cultivation of sugar-beets, even
at some sacrifice of a foreign market for our grain.
Undoubtedly this country would gain by substituting
sugar-beet culture for some of its surplus grain produc-
tion. It loses by sending abroad the wheat product of
seven or eight acres, for instance, in exchange for the
sugar product of one acre, and paying the freight each
way. Better produce sugar on the one acre and let the
other six or seven lie idle than continue the present
policy of importing agricultural products that we can
profitably raise at home. Grain exhausts the fertility of
the soil; sugar does not—it comes from the atmosphere.
This fact alone is one of the most important things about
the proposed new industry. Consider the value of the
tons of costly plant-food from American soil sent abroad
in grain each year in exchange for what comes from
European air, before asking what will it profit Amer-
icans to grow beets, if they lose a foreign market for
wheat. Taking the three important constituents of
plant-food at their market rates in commercial fertilizers,
the account stands something like this:

	LBS.	VALUE.
Wheat exported, (Phosphoric acid 52,300,000 at .05		\$ 2,615,000
100,000,000 bushels (Potash 30,700,000 " .05½		1,688,500
(Nitrogen 104,500,000 " .11½		11,756,250
To pay for		\$16,159,750
Sugar imported, (Phosphoric acid		
\$100,000,000 worth (Potash.....		None.
(Nitrogen.....		

Balance all in favor of taking sugar from American air.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL GARY makes postal savings banks
the main feature of his first annual report to the
president. It says, in part:

"Many millions of dollars are undoubtedly secreted by
people who have little or no confidence in ordinary
securities and monetary institutions organized by private
citizens. It is dead capital, but if its owners could be
inspired with absolute confidence in the security of an
investment it is altogether probable that the bulk of this
would find its way into the channels of trade and com-
merce. If the government undertook this task, the ser-
vice would undoubtedly be gladly accepted by the people.
Their faith in the government is unbounded. Their
little savings, which separately could hardly be put out
at interest, would amount in the aggregate to a sum that
could be invested to their advantage.

"The establishment of a postal savings system would
tend inevitably to the cultivation of thrift in a large class
of people. Through its instrumentality those who have
been improvident in little things and who have not
learned from experience that money makes money will
be educated slowly but surely to save a surplus over and
above their living expenses, to the end that a fund may
be created which will provide for them when sickness or
old age overtakes them. When they realize that their
savings may be so utilized under the direction and care
of their government that even small amounts will earn
money for them, it is reasonable to suppose that they

will be incited to greater exercise of thrift and industry.
They would soon come to understand the advantage of
depositing with the government their surplus earnings,
instead of expending them wastefully and, therefore,
needlessly. If but a small percentage of the money a
young person expends unnecessarily, in the many ways
known to all, could be saved and wisely invested, there
would be a competency at hand when old age comes.

"In my judgment, the establishment of postal savings
depositories would tend to better citizenship. If the
masses of people were thrifty and saving in their
habits they would more likely be contented and happy;
and if their hard-earned savings could be placed in the
hands of the government, in the welfare of which they
are all so deeply concerned, it is reasonable to believe
that they would come to a better realization of the duties
they owe to their country and consequently to each
other. The union of common interest would surely
result in a broader, wiser and more useful citizenship.
The successful operation of a postal savings deposit
system would bring into closer relationship the govern-
ment and its citizens and result in the development of
practical and enduring patriotism. The citizen who fee-
that he has a personal interest in the affairs of govern-
ment, beyond the payment of his share of taxes and the
discharge of those other duties common to all, is of more
value to the community and the nation than one whose
conception of citizenship means merely the performance
of those duties.

"The advantages to result from the adoption of a
system so promising in the growth of patriotic sentiment
and good citizenship, in my opinion, constitute a power-
ful appeal to statesmanship to provide by law for the
application and the spread of its beneficent consequences.
With the multiplication of depositors would come the
elevation of the standard of citizenship, the cementing
of the ties that bind the people to the government, the
strengthening of the public credit, and the ultimate bet-
terment of all concerned.

"The proposition is an accomplished fact in nearly
every country in Europe, in the British dependencies of
both hemispheres, and even in Hawaii. In Great Britain
7,000,000 depositors have upward of \$550,000,000 in savings
accumulated during thirty-five years, and in ten years
fewer than 10,000 Hawaiian depositors saved nearly
\$1,000,000. Deposits in Canada in twenty years exceeded
\$22,000,000. These vast accumulations have been made
with the least possible loss to the governments, which
guarantee their repayment, and with a minimum of cost
to the millions of depositors."

THE statistician of the English grain trade, Mr. Brom-
hall, recently issued his annual statement of the
world's wheat crop. He estimates that the European
crops amount to 1,120,000,000 bushels, compared with
1,480,000,000 bushels last year. Compared with the
so-called famine year of 1891 the deficiency in Europe
this year is 80,000,000 bushels.

North and South America, he estimates, produced
744,000,000 bushels, of which the United States raised
592,000,000 bushels, as compared with 472,000,000 bushels
last year. In 1891 the Americas produced 808,000,000
bushels. Asia, Africa and Australia are estimated some-
what in excess of last year, but fully 88,000,000 bushels
less than in 1891. The world's production this year is
2,224,000,000 bushels, compared with 2,384,000,000 in 1896
and 2,464,000,000 in 1891.

The reserves visible in Europe, the United States and
Canada amount to 80,000,000 bushels, as compared with
120,000,000 in 1896. The aggregate production and reserves
of 2,304,000,000 bushels fall 224,000,000 short of 2,528,000,000,
the estimated requirement of the current season. The
conclusion is that nothing but an abundant yield in
Argentina in the approaching harvest can prevent a great
scarcity of breadstuffs in Europe before the 1898 wheat
crop of northern countries is available.

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We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

Too Many Firearms. A few days ago the papers told of a sad accident in New York City that ended the life of little two-year-old Robert Smith. His father had bought a new revolver and his mother was examining it. Her children gathered about her, and little Robert called out, "Shoot me, mama!" She, supposing it was empty, pulled the trigger twice and it did not explode. The children applauded as she repeated the performance, but this time it exploded, and the little fellow dropped with a bullet in his brain. The agonized mother picked the little fellow up and fled into the street. He was taken to a hospital, and soon died. The mother's life is feared for.

Can you imagine the agony of that mother who accuses herself of having killed her own child; the remorse of that father for having brought the revolver into the house? Accidents like the one told are not an uncommon occurrence. We undoubtedly have far too many guns and revolvers in the country and far too little care and caution in handling them. Whenever I meet one of these youngsters in the street or highway carrying even the most innocent-looking gun and hunting for something to shoot at, I hurry to get out of reach. Indeed, I have a horror of firearms of any kind as handled ordinarily by the average person. It is true that boys like to shoot and hunt. But in our civilized, thickly settled communities, where people are not any more on the defensive against dangerous enemies, and where but little game is left, and that game more worthy of preserving than of destroying, shooting is a dangerous and unnecessary pastime for youngsters. It is a bad practice and a mistake to indulge our children in it. Why arouse and cultivate their murderous instincts? Why allow them to kill every innocent creature around them, and to make sad havoc among the birds of our forests and meadows? Why endanger their own and the neighbors' lives by the carelessness with which firearms are handled by young people? Surely, before we allow a woman or boy to handle a gun or revolver we should drill them in

the proper use of such weapons, and feel confident they are fully alive to the dangers connected with the use of firearms.

Why Farmers Are Poor.

I appreciate the good qualities of our American women too much to wish to find any fault with them. As a husband, and a father of daughters, and with a wide acquaintance and relationship, I look upon the women of this country as lovely and lovable creatures. Of course, like everything on the face of the earth, they have some failings. We could not like them half so well if they did not, and if like the stars in the heavens they would only dazzle us with their immaculate brilliancy and perfection. One of the failings of farmers' wives and daughters, although originating in a warm heart and a spirit of kindness and generosity, is so far-reaching in its bad effects that we should try to make womankind see it in its true light. To do this may take time and much effort in argument and persuasion, etc., but any change for the better would be worth all this effort. I refer to the rather general inclination to extravagance in preparing meals and fixing up dishes, both for the family and especially for company. What a contrast there is in this respect between farmers' families in Europe and in America. There the utmost frugality prevails and keeps the small farmer out of debt, free from worry and in perfect health. Plain food, plainly cooked, without extra trimmings and flavorings, no pie nor pastry, except plain, wholesome cakes on holiday or festive occasions; no tea, and only the weakest kind of coffee, and that often made of roasted barley, chicory, etc.; that is the way in Europe. Here our women-folks try to please the men-folks and children by filling them up with "things good to eat," especially with rich fries and all sorts of sweetmeats and pastry. Everything has to swim in butter or grease of some kind, and a meal is not considered complete, even if it consisted of the nicest meats, fried or baked, of fish, flesh or fowl, with salads, the very perfection of potatoes, splendid white bread, etc., unless followed by rich puddings, pies, various kinds of cakes, cookies, etc. These luxurious meals and dishes are never seen on the tables of the European small farmer. How can our ordinary farmers, with an income of a very few hundred dollars a year, expect to have them on their every day and still "make both ends meet?" Why all this "spread?" True, we like to make a little "show." But what our women-folks mean as a kindness to us is really one of the greatest injuries they can do us, and this not only on account of the cost of these things. Meat and potatoes taste so good that we are tempted to make a good hearty meal of them, and then afterward the pies and rich cakes and preserves and all the other things are set before us and we cannot resist. Thus overloaded stomachs are the rule, and in consequence we have all sorts of ailments and constant need of the services of doctors, and must spend lots of money for all sorts of medicines. And the sick cannot work. In short, the mistaken kindness of wives and daughters ruins the health of those they love, and kills off farmers and members of farmers' families by the wholesale, and of course keeps even those poor who otherwise might get along very nicely with a moderate income.

Edible Fungi.

At various times during the past few years our fields and pastures (the former especially where manure had been applied freely) were often strewn with a white mushroom or toad-stool, and in many places so thickly that they might have been gathered by the bushel without any effort. In a general way these mushrooms had the characteristics of the ordinary meadow mushroom (*Agaricus campestris*), except that the gills were white. Many of my neighbors tried them for the table and found them good eating. Yet, without positive assurance that it is a non-poisonous species, none of us really cared to eat freely of them. This mushroom seems to be so common and often found in such abundance that I was glad to find a description of it in a Cornell University bulletin (No. 138). It is the *Lepiota naucina*, short-stemmed parasol, or smooth *Lepiota*. The bulletin describes it as follows: "The plant is of about the same size as the meadow mushroom, is usually white or light tan, and possesses an an-

nulus. The gills, however, are white from the youngest stages to maturity, only becoming pinkish when very old, and drying a light brown or dirty pink. . . The spores of this plant are white. . . The gills are free from the stem. The general characters, with the exception of the colors of the spores, are the same as those of the *Agaricus campestris*. The pileus, or cap, is usually quite smooth, though in some specimens the surface shows numerous fine cracks which give it a granular appearance. The cap is usually very symmetrical, rounded when young and strongly convex when matured. The flesh is soft and white, but remains much firmer in age and when picked than does that of the *Agaricus campestris*. . . The veil is also firmer than in the case of the *Agaricus*. It separates cleanly from the margin of the cap, as well as from the stem, so that it



LEPIOTA NAUCINA.

Relative size in four stages; showing formation of annulus from veil.

forms a perfect color or ring, which in some cases may be moved on the stem. . . In old specimens the ring is sometimes torn and may disappear. The stem is nearly cylindrical, two to four inches long and one fourth of an inch in diameter, and is slightly enlarged or bulbous below. It is nearly hollow, though this cylindrical space is usually stuffed with loose cottony threads. The *Lepiota naucina* is an edible species, and is valued as highly as the *Agaricus* by many who have eaten it."

T. GREINER.

SALIENT FARM NOTES.

Farmers and Congressmen. Replying to a letter I wrote a few years ago a congressman then said: "You say the farmers demand that the sale of 'butterine' be stopped by law because it is injuring the sale of genuine butter. Who are the farmers that are making this demand? I never hear from them. I should suppose that if my farmer constituents want anything very badly they would let me know it."

That shows plainly where the farmers are at. Many of them declare that the greater part of all legislation is in the interests of corporations, and that their interests are not properly considered. Is this the fault of the legislators or of the farmers? Unless a respectable body of them unite in a demand for certain legislation they are not likely to get it. And they must make their demand so plain and forcible that it will not be ignored. Never in the history of mankind has any class obtained favorable consideration at the hands of the law-makers through roosting on fences and wailing, or by bemoaning the party in power. The farmers must be united in their demands the same as other classes are, and they certainly will receive consideration.

Rural Mail Delivery.

In his late report the first assistant postmaster-general says: "Sooner or later the United States will have to follow the lead of the more densely populated countries and establish a delivery service over all the settled portions of the vast territory. Under wise restrictions it can be extended with great advantage to a class of citizens who rightly or wrongly deem themselves neglected in legislation—the agricultural class—and without serious detriment to the revenues."

The question many people will ask right here is, Has the agricultural class—the farmers—been neglected in legislation? Let us see. Every city of any importance has free delivery. The mail is gathered and distributed several times each day. Costly pneumatic tubes are being constructed to enable the central office to get the mail into outlying districts every few minutes. Mail-boxes are being attached to street-cars so that collection can be accelerated, and the army of carriers is being constantly increased to meet the demands of business men who want their mail delivered immediately after its arrival.

And what is the agricultural class get-

ting meanwhile? The farmer still has the privilege of stopping in his work and driving three to ten miles whenever he wishes to mail a letter or get one. He has received no favors because he has asked for none. And just so long as he is content to merely follow his nose along his furrows, so long will he be neglected; and the business world will rush along, grasping everything good in sight, and leave him plodding slowly after, away back yonder.

Every close observer has noted the tendency of young people raised on the farms to flock to the cities, and learned philosophers armed with intellectual microscopes have sought diligently for the cause of this migration. To any one who has lived among farmers of high and low degree the reason is as apparent as the nose on his face. To an ambitious young man with the world before him farm life is slow and semi-isolated, and farm-folk do not appear to be well informed and up-to-date like townspeople. He would like to mingle with the live, bright men and women he sees in the city and "be somebody." He wants to get out of the week life of the farm and into the every-day life of the city; out of the furrow and onto the sidewalk; out of stogies and into russet gaiters.

In the cities the young people divide the year into school-days and vacation. In the country they divide it into school-days and work-days. The city man reads his morning and evening papers, and the young people learn what has occurred all over the world during the last six hours. The farmer reads his weekly, and his young people learn what happened last week. The city man has the latest general news and the latest information respecting his business or profession delivered to him not less than twice each day, and this makes him alert, quick and decisive. He looks bright and thoroughly informed, and he is; and so are his children, and spirited young country people aspire to be like them. Can we blame them?

The best way to overcome this desire of the brightest young people to leave the farm is to make farm life more attractive. Give the young people a chance to become as well informed and up-to-date as the children of townspeople, for one thing. Give them a chance to learn what is going on the world over every day, so that they will feel that they are the equals in knowledge of current events of any one—that they are not one whit behind young town-folk in this respect. This can be done through rural free delivery. With the advent of this great convenience the isolation, the dull, prosy slowness, the ignorance of important every-day happenings, of the markets and of the condition of growing crops throughout the country will disappear. Every farmer who so desires can keep himself as well informed on all matters of interest as the city man. Letters containing matters of great importance will not lie in the post-office only a few miles away for a week or more, as very often they do in busy times, but they will reach their destination promptly and be promptly answered. In fact, the farmer will be in as close touch with the business world and with his relatives and friends almost as the city man now is.

The experiment of rural free delivery has been on trial in an adjoining county the past seven months, and the territory covered comprises about forty-seven square miles. Three carriers traveling on horse-back about thirty-five miles each a day make the deliveries and collections. The population served is about one thousand, and the number of pieces of mail delivered in the seven months was 28,559. The experiment has proved a great success. The farmers are delighted with the service, and they have co-operated with the post-office authorities by erecting boxes at the roadside to facilitate collection and deliveries.

The experiment is being made in twenty-nine states, and in every instance the work is highly appreciated by the farmers. The postmaster-general says it can be extended with great advantage to the agricultural class and without serious detriment to the revenues. Then by all means let the farmers demand it without delay, because they are entitled to it.

FRED GRUNDY.

Our Farm.

FARM THEORY AND PRACTICE.

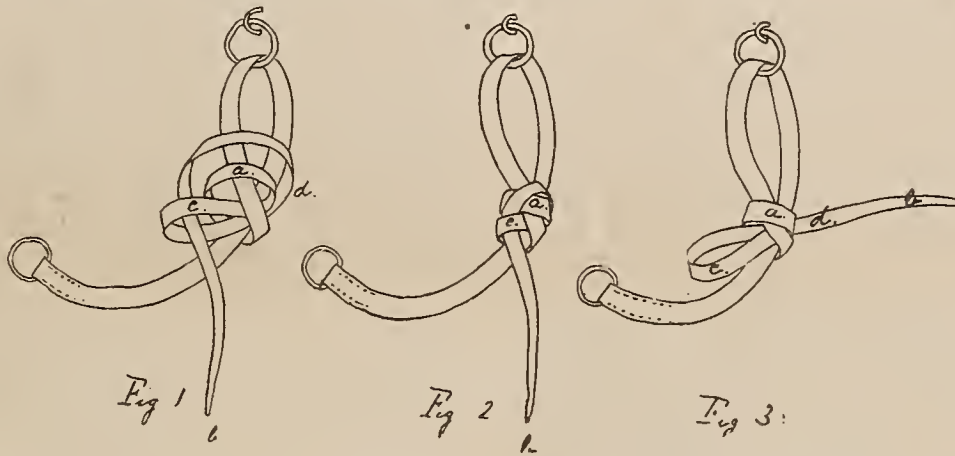
COR SCIENTISTS AND INDIAN CORN.—The most valuable forage-plant of this country is corn. The United States is peculiarly blessed in that it can produce this plant in its perfection. It affords an immense amount of valuable food an acre. However, since we have learned to analyze the various foods for stock, and have determined in some degree the proper proportion in which the various elements should exist in a ration for stock, there has been much written against the very general use of corn for other than fattening purposes. The analysis of corn shows that it is deficient in muscle-producing power, and this grain has come under condemnation by most of our scientific friends. They would have the major portion of it in the ration displaced by foods that contain less carbon and more protein, as oats, bran, gluten-meal, etc. So much has been written against the general use of corn as a grain ration for stock that farmers have learned to regard themselves as very unscientific, while they continue to depend upon this grain as the main factor in all farm feeding; but the fact remains that they continue to depend chiefly upon corn because its use pays them best. Criticism of the course that pays best is all wrong. The chances are that the universal practice of the most intelligent farmers of a locality is not far removed from the best practice for that locality. Why do theory and the practice of many differ so widely?

BALANCED RATION MAY BE UNPROFITABLE.—The balanced ration is one in which the various elements are in proper proportion. The ratio between the muscle-forming and the fat-forming elements is fixed according to the supposed needs of the animal, depending upon the age of the animal and the purpose for which it is kept. Beyond question the eastern dairyman, or teamster, who buys much of his grain, finds it profitable to balance the grain ration he feeds. Corn is comparatively high, while nitrogenous by-products of mills can be bought by him about as cheaply as by the farmer of the central and western states. Experiments have proven to him the utility of the tables arranged for his guidance in compounding rations for animals variously employed. The balanced ration gives the best results pound for pound of the feed; that is beyond question. But the ordinary farmer of this country is not situated like the dairyman and teamsters in and near our cities. Corn is relatively very cheap on his farm, and the fodder has little market value. He is rearing and fattening animals for market, and is keeping horses for his farm-work. He is in the business for profit, if possible, and the first big fact is that an acre of his land will produce an immense amount of feed in the form of corn and fodder, and that he cannot exchange this grain for other grain that is more nitrogenous without a big sacrifice in the quantity of his feed or by the addition of a considerable sum of money. He is aware that the feeding of corn alone is wasteful, but as the corn is cheap, the question is whether he can afford to buy high-priced feeding-stuffs, drawing them oftentimes many miles from the railway station, for the sake of balancing up his ration. It is the best judgment of thousands that, under their conditions, this balancing cannot be done to any considerable extent. They can compete with those using balanced rations in other sections because their feed is very cheap, and the best management is that which is the most profitable.

CORN FOR HORSES.—Beyond question corn is a sluggish feed for horses, and those intended for road purposes cannot be fed upon it exclusively with good results. But the mass of American horses west of the Allegheny mountains are kept for farming purposes, and the cost of their keep is a considerable item in the cost of crops. It is idle to say that corn will not do as a grain ration for plow-horses, for most plow-horses have this grain throughout the winter, and many get only this grain throughout the summer. For the reason that oats are far superior for road-horses, there is a sort of agreement that corn should not be the chief grain ration of any horse, and yet in face of this the corn is fed. The fact is that the farmers

find corn a good winter feed for farm-horses. Horses are put into pretty solid condition by it for ordinary farm-work. While deficient in muscle-forming material to some extent, it answers the purpose, and its cheapness makes it the most profitable feed. That is the final test, when no suffering to an animal results. The man who wants a spirited and speedy animal will exchange his corn for oats, letting the feed of his horse cost him more for the sake of getting what he wants, but I maintain that no apology is needed for the quite general practice of feeding much corn to farm-horses in our great corn-belt.

YOUNG STOCK NEEDS PROTEIN.—We agree that there is too exclusive feeding of young stock on corn, and farmers are learning more and more to supply bran and other muscle-forming material for the sake of proper development of growing stock. In its case there is double waste, failure to appropriate all the food in the corn and failure to develop bone and muscle for a desirable animal. The area in which proper balancing of rations for all animals by the purchase of grain grows greater every year, and we should be watchful of every chance for greater profit; but there are vast sections of this country yet remaining where the local grain is so cheap that it would be unprofitable to purchase other food in order to make the feeding ration conform with the tables arranged by our scientists. It is unscientific to lose money. Local conditions control in large part the character of the grain ration of farm animals. Our scientists are doing a good work in preparing these guides, and many use them profitably; but their adoption depends upon one's circumstances. Corn is our important forage-plant, and there should be no



apology for its extended use, regardless of analyses, so long as it is the most profitable feed, measured in results in market, that we have on many farms.

FRUIT FOR THE FAMILY.—Too many of us have made the mistake of not setting out varieties of fruit-trees near the farmhouse for family supply. The farmer can have at least an abundance of the choicest food, if he does not make money rapidly. A few trees of the various choice varieties of plums, pears, cherries, and, if possible, peaches should be growing near the house. This spring is the time for such work, if it has been neglected heretofore. There should be grapes, currants and gooseberries. I confess to some change of heart in this matter. For years it seemed that the specialist should be the winner, but the safe course to-day is to grow and have these luxuries—no, necessities—upon the farm.

DAVID.

SWINE PROSPECTS.

A good number of hogs have been fattened during the past year. They have gone to market with heavier weight than in former years. Cheap grain has induced the farmers to hold for larger size and in hopes of higher prices. Values at the yards during October were very low. The advance in grain during August caused a good number of feeders to hold over until October in expectation of an advance in pork. This policy has enabled packers to obtain heavy supplies and permitted them to "bear" the market. It is usual for many feeders to finish their stock on the new corn, causing heavy receipts in November and December. Those who are situated so they may feed moderately at first and finish for February will probably gain by this policy and relieve the glut of early winter. This plan is advised where grazing, perishable vegetables, fruit and roots can be utilized as a substitute for valuable grain.

Indications at present writing are favorable for an advance in wheat, which will surely strengthen the other grain markets. By the first of December farmers will find their corn lighter in yield than their former estimate.

The breeder who is persistent in season and out of season in his work sees the end of the coming year from present signs of the times. When prices are low, as at present, the average swine-grower concludes to plan for but a moderate supply of hogs for the coming year. This results in a diminished aggregate number throughout the country and improvement in values. The limited amount of beef for the coming year will cause increased consumption of pork. The heavy exports of corn and oats will strengthen values in these grains. The general policy adopted for the ensuing year determines the success of the breeder. They who claim to produce the very best are on the safe side. It is economy to incur additional expense to procure, if possible, better foundation stock for breeding purposes. The saying, "The sire is half the herd," is no more true than when applied to the necessary company for a high-grade sire. Blood, food and proper management count. Brains must be exercised aright.

M. A. R.

TYING HORSES.

As I was driving under the shed of one of our stores recently I found there a team already hitched to the manger. One of the horses had slipped its bridle from its head and was trampling it in the dirt. After securing my own team, I also adjusted the dangling bridle to its proper place. Entering the store I met the owner of the team, and in course of our conversation I mentioned to him the condition of his horse as I found it.

"Well," he said, "no matter where and when you tie that horse he will either slip his bridle or untie the straps."

From a few points of arguments that were exchanged between us I found that my friend either did not know or never had tried the proper way of bridling a horse or tying a strap to the manger.

The throat-latch of his bridle hung far down, so loose that I had no trouble in slipping the bridle onto the horse's head without unbuckling the same. A reverse action, caused by the horse rubbing his head against a post or manger, would of course allow the bridle to slip off again. It is the object of the throat-latch of halters and bridles to keep them securely in place, and if our friend had buckled it just loose enough so it would not choke the horse the bridle would never have come off. In tying the lead-strap to the manger the same mistake was made. The tie was too loosely made to be safe, and if the horse had any notion of nibbling at the strap he could easily untie himself.

The illustration shows both the right and the wrong way of tying either leather straps or ropes. Fig. 1 is something like the tie referred to; it is not reliable, although it may answer for a temporary hitch. But if I wanted to be positively sure that my horses could not get loose I would not stop short of the tie, Fig. 2. This is the same as Fig. 1, except that every part of it is drawn up tight. To make it, tie the common bow-knot, Fig. 3, drawing the knot (a) fairly tight; pass the end (b) of the strap through the bow or loop (c), and draw the loop by pulling at strap (d) until it hugs the end (b). When doing this, the knot (a) is liable to loosen, which must be prevented by holding it with thumb and forefinger of one hand while the other does the pulling. Then draw the end (b) through the drawn-up loop (c). Fig. 2, as far as possible, and you will have a tie that no animal is able to undo.

G. C. GREINER.

DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH.

TESTING NOVELTIES.—The Bible says, "Prove all things—hold fast that which is good." An excellent way for the husbandman to spend his time is by wearing his "studying-cap." Or we might express the same idea by saying the most useful part of a farmer's attire is his "studying-cap."

One good way to use this thinking capacity is by getting and testing new varieties of grain, vegetables, fruits, and so on. When the experiments are completed, the failures should be reported the same as the successes. Be it ever remembered that these tests should be made in a small way—stick to old kinds till something better is found by practical trial.

Along this line the writer has been at work for some time. A few years ago he planted the following varieties of plums—the Abundance, the Wayland, the Poole Pride, the World-beater, the Forest Rose and the Prairie Flower. All except Abundance (that was killed by a late spring freeze) have fruited this season, and all except Poole are unworthy of their room. However, Poole is not so good as Wild Goose. Wild Goose is the best plum I have yet fruited. I have Gold, Burbank, Red June and Orient yet to show what they are, and whichever proves unworthy, out by the roots it will come.

DEAD BEATS.—This is pre-eminently an age of alluring advertisements. I want to tell my readers two ways I have got caught. And, by the way, I took the precaution to write the mayor of the city where the advertisers are located; in reply I received a favorable recommendation. Perhaps some who are honest at home are swindlers abroad. The first swindle I speak of was in the way of a truss ("as easily worn as a stocking," so said the firm) which I bought for my much-lamented father. I remitted the required amount, and when the truss came it proved to be anything but what it was represented. The pads were much larger than necessary, especially the rear pad, and were made of wood at that. The advertisement claimed the truss could be worn night or day with perfect comfort. Any one can realize to some extent how comfortable a wooden ball would be when under a person on the bed. Dear readers, if you ever need a truss, get it through the instrumentality of your family physician. The other "dead beat" represents himself as a crayon artist. He proposes to teach students by mail to make crayon portraits. To make a long story short, I warn my readers to keep clear of such "crayon artists" as above described. When they get your money that is all they care for. Give their offer of "home employment" the "cold shoulder." If you have some money to spare, a good way to invest a little of it is to present two or three friends with some good farm literature. 'Twill be much better spent than when sharpers get hold of your money.

SCRAP-BOOKS.—Now in closing I wish to talk awhile with the young people who read the FARM AND FIRESIDE. How many of you have a scrap-book? If you have never undertaken to make a collection of select literary articles, you are missing one of the valuable pleasures of life. If you cannot afford to purchase the scrap-book, one that will answer can be easily made of a canvasser's prospectus; or in absence of the prospectus, clean sheets of almost any kind of paper could be fastened together and bound with paste-board covers, and with a little skill quite a neat book can be made. Then when a nice poem or other article is found, it can be clipped and fastened in the scrap-book with glue.

JEFFERSON D. CHEELY.

Rheumatism Cured

Laid Up with the Disease for Ten Weeks—Catarrh also Relieved.

"Some time since I was laid up with rheumatism for ten weeks, and I was advised to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. I procured a bottle and began taking it and it helped me very much. Since then I always resort to Hood's Sarsaparilla when I need a blood purifier. My brother has taken Hood's Sarsaparilla for catarrh and it has done him much good." AMY Houser, 572 West Fifth Street, Dayton, Ohio.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion. 25c.

Our Farm.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE MANAGERS.

THE third meeting of "The American Association of Farmers' Institute Managers" was held at Columbus, Ohio, October 27th and 28th. Eight states—Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Ohio, Maryland, Indiana, North Carolina, New Jersey and Michigan—were represented. The object of the association is the improvement and uplifting of institute work through organization and the free interchange of experience by active workers.

The first topic presented was "The Evolution of the Institute Idea," by W. I. Chamberlain, in which the origin of farmers' institutes was traced back to 1846; Ohio, Michigan and Massachusetts being the first states to hold such meetings. To Ohio belongs the idea of holding county institutes.

Superintendent O. C. Gregg, of Minnesota, talked informally on "Institutes in General," and stated that the most effective way to introduce science in agriculture was to teach practical methods based on science, incidentally dropping in a scientific fact. He believed there should be centralized control of institutes by the state lecturers, and opposed the plan of allowing local talent to arrange programs, provide places of meeting and preside.

Prof. John Hamilton, of Pennsylvania, presented a paper on "How the Distinctly Educational Value of Institutes may be Promoted," in which he stated that the farmers' institute is a school—an agricultural school—and the farmer's school is his institute. The institute should not only impart knowledge, but stimulate the people to think. Amusements and entertainments should be provided only as secondary features, preparatory to advanced work. In the revival stage of institutes they do much good, but later should be used sparingly. As the institute movement advances, carefully planned, systematic courses of work should be adopted. These should consist largely of the natural sciences in their direct application to the life and welfare of country people. There need be no limit to such instruction. Agriculture is rapidly leaving ignorance and superstition behind. The time of guessing has passed, and the day of exact knowledge is at hand. One of the great problems now is to secure competent men as instructors. As the work advances this will become more and more serious, unless a plan can be devised for employing speakers for the entire year at a fixed salary, thus making it an object for a man to prepare for such work. The following plan might accomplish this end: The state to be divided into sections, and an instructor placed in each to conduct institutes or schools in various parts of that section at frequent intervals, and each year to hold one large institute for the whole section; lecturers to be shifted from one section to another occasionally, thus giving the people the advantage of more than one teacher.

Superintendent W. L. Amoss, of Maryland, presented a paper on "The Value of Exhibits," in which he expressed the opinion that they should be planned both for display and instruction, principally the latter. An exhibit should be select rather than large, and awards given, not for what it shows, but for what it teaches. The judge should explain why awards were made for the instruction of the people. The discussion of this paper brought out the prevailing opinion among members that exhibits have a great educational value if properly managed. But it is often difficult to secure an expert judge, and it is not usually wise for an institute speaker to make the awards.

Superintendent K. L. Butterfield, of Michigan, discussed "Reaching the Young People," and set forth the plans adopted in Michigan. High schools are visited by professors from the agricultural colleges, who set forth the advantages and value of nature-study and thereby create interest in the things of the farm. Women's sections are held in connection with institutes, and many of the high-school girls attend and become interested. A proposition is to be made to high schools where institutes are to be held to allow students to attend at least one session, and require them to write a paper on what they see and hear, with the understanding that prizes are to be awarded to the best of these. It is hoped that this plan will interest the

school children in the institutes and bring them to feel the dignity of agriculture. The discussion brought out many suggestions from members; chalk talks, lantern lectures and distinctly young people's sessions were recommended as drawing features. Institute work should be planned especially for the young people, for upon them the success of future advanced work must depend.

The evening meeting was occupied with reports from various states, taking the form of a general discussion in which much interest was manifested in the women's meetings or women's sections. The plan has been adopted in Michigan and Minnesota, and to a limited extent in Indiana: all were enthusiastic over the success reported. This is a branch of institute work that will receive much attention from managers.

The "Good Roads Movement and the Farmers' Institute" was presented by W. C. Connelly, representing the League of American wheelmen. The great advantages of good roads to the farmer were set forth. Good roads are to the farmer what rivers and railroads are to cities.

One of the most interesting topics presented during the meeting was "Live Stock and the Institute," by Superintendent O. C. Gregg, of Minnesota. In the early stages of institute work something is needed to break up prejudice and create an interest. This could be done by judging live stock on the street, giving a demonstration lecture in which the good and bad points of the animal are studied. The actual presence of the thing talked about gives practical value to the lecture. In the early stages of institute work in Minnesota, horses were trained on the public square as a means of interesting people in the practical value of institutes. The discussion brought out the opinion that object-lessons—charts, maps, illustrations, specimens—were of great value.

The part that agricultural papers should take in institute work was discussed thoroughly. The agricultural press should be second only to the institute itself. It should be the advance-agent in encouraging farmers to hold institutes and in advertising meetings. Probably the most useful work is the reporting of institutes—carrying the institute into the homes of those not able to be present. The primary object of institutes is to impart information, and the agricultural press gives a publicity that can be obtained in no other way. Institute papers should be published and not reserved exclusively for annual reports, because so few people see such reports.

The question-box, which proved to be a feature of the meeting, was conducted by Professor John Hamilton. Superintendent Gregg objected to the printed program, because it will not meet the needs of the hour; the program should be adapted to the audience. Others favored the printed program, because it acted as an advertising medium and also made it possible for people to hear special papers without staying the session through. The two-day institute was favored more than the one-day, because it takes much of the first day to become acquainted and arouse interest and enthusiasm. The advantage of a general tax to support institutes was thought to be great, because the few people who usually have to pay for every good work that is carried on in a neighborhood are thus relieved. The welcome address was generally conceded to be useless and a waste of time.

Much discussion was indulged in regarding the nature of evening sessions of institutes. There should be a rest and recreation from the day's work, and in some sense an entertainment. Good music is valuable. There should be little of the school exhibition in the way of recitations and dialogues. The hired elocutionist did not meet with much favor at the hands of the members.

The next meeting will be held at Omaha. The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Professor John Hamilton, of Pennsylvania; Secretary, F. W. Taylor, of Nebraska, re-elected. A motion carried to appoint a committee of three to consider ways and means of mutual co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture, and to report at the next meeting.

W. D. GIBBS.

CREAMERIES OR BUTTER-FACTORIES.—"Advantages, Location, Organization and Equipment" is the title of a valuable pamphlet by Henry E. Alvord, chief of Dairy Division. For a copy apply to Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

HOW THEY SAVED THEIR HOME.

A ROMANCE OF THE PRESENT DAY.

They started their new, happy life of love and hope together in a trim, bright-tinted little house that stood back upon a terraced lawn. A smooth path led to the broad "stoop" and hospitable piazza. The long sweep of roof, the wide-curving "bays" and the little western turret with oriel windows bespoke ample room and light and air and gorgeous sunsets.

Oh, how they loved that little home! He was industrious, frugal, ambitious; she a tender wife with a heart full of devotion; and both of them determined at any cost of struggle or sacrifice to earn and pay for this cherished dwelling-place, and possess



THEY SAVED THEIR HOME.

it as their very own; a cozy nest in days of sunshine, a refuge in time of trouble, a shelter, a fireside, a home.

HOW TROUBLE CAME.

At first it seemed smooth sailing. He was glad to work overtime, and she, being deft with needle and scissors, helped the neighbors with their gowns. In such ways a few dollars were added to the small home-making fund. Day after day, early and late, they earnestly planned and toiled, never realizing that they were going beyond their strength, until the little breakdowns began to come.

Many a morning he would rise with his head feeling, as he expressed it, "like a lump of lead," and no stomach for the dainty breakfast she had prepared. "Oh, you must eat!" she would exclaim, anxiously. "You can never work without it." And all the time trying to smile, she would pass her hand lightly across her own forehead as if to brush away the pain that snapped and darted underneath.

Then came days when he could neither eat nor work at all; when his sight was blurred and dizzy, his limbs weighted down as if with shackles; his whole body full of sickness and nausea and distaste of living, and his mind dark with dismal forebodings. Describing this terrible time afterward he said to a friend:

"What troubled me most was that I could not understand what was the matter with me. The doctors said it was consumption; they did me no good. I knew something was killing me by inches. Finally I had to give up and go to bed. I could hardly lift my head off the pillow. My brother wanted to write to Dr. Pierce of Buffalo, and brought me three bottles of his 'Golden Medical Discovery' and begged me to take it. I didn't have much faith, but said to my wife:

"What's the use? The doctors don't help me a bit, and nothing else will. At this rate I'll die anyway. This 'Discovery' can't hurt me; it may help me; I'll try these three bottles just to please Jim." He was right, too. The first bottle went straight to my digestion, and gave me an appetite so I relished my food. I felt as if every mouthful was doing me good and making good blood in my veins. I began to feel better and pick up my flesh; my bowels came around right, and I guess my liver sort of waked up. My cough stopped. I got good and strong, and in four weeks I was back at work again like a man."

HOW TROUBLE WENT AWAY.

"My wife never let on how miserable she was feeling all the while; when I found it out I made her take the 'Discovery,' too, and Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for her nerves, and she says she's just made over new again. I sent for his great 'Medical Adviser.' It's the grandest book you ever saw. If we'd had it before, we would have saved hundreds of dollars."

Then came new hopes, new plans, new power and fresh achievements. The little home in time became their very own, earned and paid for by the erstwhile nerve-

less hands and brain now restored to vigor and activity by the most remarkable life-renewing "Discovery" that medical science has ever revealed to man. And when at length a sweet, fresh little life came to bless their lives, they felt that happiness was complete.

This is a true story, and it cannot be told too often or too strongly. What this great "Discovery" did for this man, it has done for thousands of men and women in every corner of this broad Union, and in every civilized country on the Globe. The discoverer and inventor of this matchless remedy, R. V. Pierce, M. D., has been for thirty years and now is the chief consulting physician of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute of Buffalo, N. Y. Probably no living physician has had a wider practical experience in dealing with those obscure and obstinate diseases which baffle the skill of ninety-nine doctors out of every hundred.

A Massachusetts man, Mr. John Brooks, of Boylston, Worcester Co. (Sawyers Mills), in a letter to Dr. Pierce, writes: "I feel it my duty now to write to you to tell you of the great benefit I received from Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I cannot thank you enough for the good I have received. About a year ago I was taken with a bad cold which settled on my lungs. The doctors said I was in consumption and could not get well. I took Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, and it did me no good. After taking it four months I heard of your 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and wrote to you for advice. I have taken your medicine and it saved my life. I felt so sick when I wrote to you I thought I would not live the winter through. In the morning I would raise an awful lot and spit all the time, with pains in my chest all the time. My bowels would not move more than once or twice a week; my strength was nearly all gone; I could not do a whole day's work. Now my bowels are regular every day, and I feel no more pains in my chest. Feel a great deal stronger. I am working hard every day, driving a team in the woods, and I owe my thanks to Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I know it saved my life. I cannot praise it enough. I am proud to tell my friends what cured me."

John Brooks

A lady living in Webster, Day Co., South Dakota, Mrs. Anna Tule, writes: "Words cannot express my gratitude to you for the great benefit received from Dr. Pierce's medicines, 'Favorite Prescription' and 'Golden Medical Discovery.' Much of the time in the past four years I have been languishing upon a bed of sickness, and racked with pain. Four skillful physicians finally decided that I must go to a hospital for a more intricate surgical operation than any I had yet undergone.

"In my wretchedness bordering on despair, a friend came to see me, and insisted upon my giving Dr. Pierce's remedies a trial—citing two wonderful cures which these medicines had effected right here in our neighborhood. I commenced immediately taking his 'Favorite Prescription' and 'Golden Medical Discovery' alternately, and in three days I had gained so much that I most emphatically refused to be taken to the hospital. I have steadily gained in health and strength every day since, so that my improvement is not only a surprise to myself and husband, but neighbors regard my cure as nothing less than a miracle. Any person desiring information concerning my ailments, which Dr. Pierce's medicines have cured, can have it by writing to me and inclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope."

Mrs. Anna Tule

Out of the vast stores of experience accumulated in a lifetime of research Dr. Pierce has compiled a wonderful thousand-page illustrated book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser," a complete home medical library in one volume. Over 1,200,000 American homes contain copies of this great book. About half of this enormous issue sold at \$1.50 a copy. A free edition in paper covers has been published, and one copy will be sent to any family absolutely without price, for the bare cost of mailing, 21 one-cent stamps. These should be sent to World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y., or 31 stamps should be sent if a heavier, handsomer, more durable cloth-bound copy is preferred.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

BURBANK'S NOVELTIES.—A California reader asks what may be expected of the "Primus," a berry described as something like the dewberry, only much larger and of better flavor, a cross between blackberry and raspberry. Mr. Luther Burbank surely stands in the front rank, and never has been excelled as a skilful propagator and originator of new fruits. To his painstaking care we owe a number of valuable novelties, among them some of the handsomest plums, crosses between Japanese and American sorts, that were ever grown. And yet we must not imagine that every novelty brought out by his skill, whether introduced by J. L. Childs or any other nurseryman, of general value. I expected great things from the Japanese wineberry (not a production of Burbank's), and was sorely disappointed. My experience with Burbank's Golden Mayberry and strawberry-raspberry is likely to be a repetition of the wineberry experience. The Loganberry, something between raspberry and blackberry, seems promising—at least from the reports of people in whom we can place absolute confidence. My own plants have not yet borne fruit, but undoubtedly will do so next season. In the meantime we will do well to keep an eye on Luther Burbank and his productions, and try in a small way everything that he offers with his recommendation. But we should go slow, and not put our hopes too high, and especially not pay out much money for a great number of plants before we are sure what they are likely to do for us.

EVER-BEARING RASPBERRY.—One of my readers in the far West wrote me about an ever-bearing red raspberry which he has grown for some time, and on my request forwarded some plants to me for trial; also a branch or two well loaded with green and ripe fruit. It is by no means impossible that sooner or later we may get a raspberry that will bear either a second crop or a crop on new wood, or even berries, right along until the end of the season. I have ever-bearing strawberries (Alpines), and sometimes my ordinary varieties, as well as my ordinary raspberries and blackberries, bear a second crop. With some of the blackberries (Kittatimny, etc.) it is even a common occurrence to have a full setting of fruit. The trouble is that we seldom appreciate or enjoy these late berries as much as we do those that ripen in their proper season.

Our friend S. L. Watkins (California), who booms the Mexican strawberry and the coral-berry, now also comes forward with a "French Ever-bearing Raspberry" as the best all-purpose raspberry of the present day. His description of it is as follows: "It forms a larger bush than any other of the red variety known. The leaves are a dark green, and the canes are very large. It is strange and unique, in that it yields three crops in a season. The fruit averages a large size, the berries being about one third larger than the Cuthbert and singularly beautiful, of a brilliant red frosted with a white bloom. The flavor is superb, rich, sweet, spicy, aromatic, and because of the absence of a core, melting in the mouth. This marvelous berry furnishes fruit in the greatest abundance from early spring until snow flies. It possesses decided merit as a shipping berry, standing transportation well. It is of French origin, being imported from that country by one of California's leading nurserymen." The editor of the "California Fruit Grower" (in which paper I found this quotation) this time (very wisely) adds: "The foregoing is given space without comment and without indorsement. It is Mr. Watkins' statement only." Altogether I think Mr. Watkins promises too much and too many wonderful novelties, and so my faith is none too great. I would not invest much money in any of them.

After all, may not this second fruiting of raspberries, as reported by my western friend, be merely accidental and a result of a freaky season rather than a permanent feature of a variety? The following quotation is from a New England floral paper: "Perhaps the most peculiar feature of this peculiar season is the way in which

Dame Nature has fooled her subjects. Strawberries that bloomed and fruited in June were deceived into making a second attempt in August and September. Numerous instances are recorded in the New England states where this second crop of berries has been large enough to market. One grower sent several crates to Boston in September. The same is true of raspberries to a less extent. Dozens of sprays of the apple and pear have been called to our attention, containing nearly ripe fruit and blossoms at the same time. Wild violets, as large and fragrant as those of April, were picked in August."

T. GREINER.

ORCHARD AND SMALL FRUITS.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

ORCHARD CORRESPONDENCE.

MONTEREY CYPRESS.—The following is an extract from a letter from Thos. H. Douglas, who has had a wide experience in the study and handling of trees in California and elsewhere in this country. At one time Mr. Douglas was with the California State Board of Forestry:

"The only European cypress I know to be grown in California is the Italian cypress, a tall, formal-growing tree resembling the Lombardy poplar in form of growth, but not making such a large tree; used a great deal in cemetery planting. The Monterey cypress, *Cupressus macrocarpa*, is a native of California, being found at Monterey and one other point on the coast. It is a very rapid grower, bears clipping well, close planting and drought and a great variety of soils. It can be and is formed into many fantastic shapes. It is not hardy east of California and north of Georgia. Even if it was hardy it could not be trimmed into the various forms. The inverted V is the only satisfactory form to use in the North and East, as flat-top hedges are apt to be broken with a heavy fall of damp snow, and when once broken are very unsightly and almost impossible to get in shape again. Several other forms of cypress are used in California, chief of which are their native species, *C. Goveniana*, *C. MacNabiana* and *C. Guadalupeensis*, but four fifths of all used are the Monterey cypress. We have spent thousands of dollars trying to acclimate the beautiful California conifers, paying over \$100 a pound for some of the seed in early days, but have not found a single California tree or shrub to grow in northern Illinois. What we call the California privet here is there called by its right name, Japan privet, *Berberis thunbergii*, is also a good hedge-plant, but not an ever-green."

MY METHOD OF GROWING CURRANTS AND GOOSEBERRIES.—As I am busy preparing and setting the cuttings of these two fruits, my method of propagating may be of interest to some who contemplate growing them another year. I do not follow the usual custom of burying the cuttings in sand till spring, but do the whole job at once in the fall, for several reasons. The most important reason is to avoid the spring rush of work, for this work should be done promptly and carefully or else a failure is sure to be the result. Then the currant and gooseberry start growth so very early in the spring that often the buds will swell and even the leaves start before I have finished the work. The ground will become settled about the cuttings so that when the young rootlets start they will find "firm footing." The cuttings of the currants are taken from the new wood as soon as it has ripened, which may be told by the change of color of the wood to a brown. They are cut about eight or nine inches long, tied into bunches of fifty and buried with tops down for a few days, that the fresh cuts may callous. When I take the cuttings I cut them as diagonally as possible, that as great a surface of fresh cut may be obtained, for the young rootlets start from the edge of the calloused cuts, and the greater the calloused surface, the more rootlets there are apt to be. As the gooseberry is more difficult to root than the currant, it is a good plan to layer some of the branches early in August, yet I have very good results with the cuttings. I shave a thin piece of bark from the end, which I insert in the soil and allow it to callous before setting. I have nearly seventy-five per cent live plants by so doing, which is about as well as though they had been layered. I plow the ground at least ten inches deep, and work the surface till it is fine and well settled. The rows are furrowed out seven or eight inches deep and three feet apart; the cuttings are set at an angle of forty-five degrees along the row and six inches apart. The soil is firmed well about them with a tump two by six inches in size fastened edgewise to a handle; about one inch of the wood is allowed to protrude above ground. During the winter I cover the ground with fine rotted manure, which will prevent heaving by frost and enrich the ground as well. The ground cannot be too rich for these plants, for a plant which starts from the bud must have plenty of food and nourishment. Next to food comes culture, which the plants must have or else very little growth will be made. My plants are kept as clean as an onion-bed, or cleaner. B. A. W. Kalamazoo county, Mich.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Protecting Trees from Rabbits.—M. S., Pacific, Mo. Either shut out the rabbits with a wire-screen fence around the orchard or paint the trees with Portland cement made about the consistency of paint, into which has been stirred a small amount of Paris green.

Transplanting Currants and Gooseberries.—O. S., Yonkers, N. Y. I prefer to transplant currants and gooseberries about the first of October; but it may be done nearly as well early in the spring. In autumn planting it is important to firm the soil solid around the roots, and in addition to make a little mound of soil around each plant.

Grafting or Budding the Peach.—H. H., Long Grove, Iowa. The peach is seldom grafted successfully in the northern states. In the South it is often done successfully. The better way in such a case as yours is to cut the stocks on which the buds failed back to the ground in early spring and bud again next year on a good, thrifty sprout. If the trees are too large to handle well in this way, better throw them away and start anew next season with peach-pits, as they are most satisfactory.

May-beetle Larvae.—C. R., Savannah, Ga. The worms to which you refer are probably the larvae of the May-beetle, and they live several years in the soil before leaving it. It has been found that the use of kainite, which is a good tree fertilizer, drives them away. You should probably use about five pounds to a good-sized plum-tree, and propor-

tionately for trees of smaller size, applying it as soon as growth starts in the spring. If you cannot do this, you might use bisulphid of carbon, which is a fluid much like gasoline, by making small holes a foot apart each way under the tree, pouring a teaspoonful of the liquid into each hole and filling it up at once with earth. Soaking the ground around the tree with kerosene emulsion or tobacco-water or even soap-suds would probably kill them or drive them away. Or you might spade up the soil and let the chickens pick up the worms, which would also be good for the tree.

Nut-bearing Trees.—E. B., Moravia, N. Y. The chestnut, black walnut, butternut, shellbark hickory and Japan walnut may all be grown in your vicinity. There are no varieties offered of the butternut and black walnut and Japan walnut, and yet some improvement on the ordinary form can be had by planting only nuts from trees bearing choice fruits. Of the chestnuts there are many varieties, some of which had originated from our native chestnuts, and others from the European and Japanese forms. Seedlings from our best native sorts have generally proven most profitable in cultivation, though the nuts may not be as large as the grafted kinds. Among the best of the foreign kinds, and perhaps of all named sorts, is the Paragon chestnut. There are several varieties of the shellbark hickory, but they are propagated with so much uncertainty that they are very difficult to obtain. Among the best is Hale's paper-shell hickory, which has been propagated in a small way. The chestnut undoubtedly promises better returns in cultivation than any other of our cultivated nuts.

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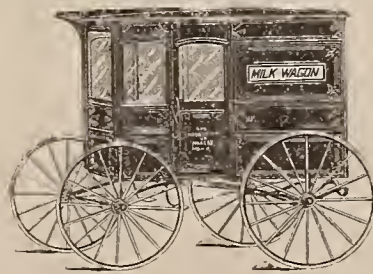


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HATCHING EARLY BROILERS.

BROILERS hatched in November will furnish the early supply of 1898. There is a demand which usually begins in January, but it is not large, though good prices are obtained. The prices quoted by wholesale houses are not representative of the sums obtained by dealers. Frequently the price of a dozen broilers will be \$12, but the prices quoted will not be over \$4. This is due to the fact that the demand so early in the season is not steady, but there is always a ready sale for broilers that are not over one and one fourth pounds' weight until April, when the weight should be one and one half pounds. Hatching may begin at any time now, and if the advice heretofore given to practise before the fall arrives has been heeded, much time will have been saved, for no inexperienced operator should expect much with his first attempt, as there are so many little details to observe; but artificial incubation is not nearly as difficult as formerly, owing to the great improvements that have been made in incubators. If chicks are hatched from now on the most essential requisite is warmth. To allow a chick to become chilled during cold weather means death, and it will not pay to attempt to hatch and raise them unless you are prepared in advance. During some months the work is easy, but to raise them in winter needs care and attention.

THE POULTRY OF ONE STATE.

The census of 1890 put the total value of poultry and eggs at about \$200,000,000 per annum. This is nearly equal to the wheat crop, is close onto the value of oats, and is far above the value of sheep and but little below swine. It is also an industry that brings in quick returns, for eggs are daily receipts, while chicks begin to reach the market in less than three months from the time they are hatched, the expenses, therefore, being provided to a great extent by the frequent receipts. Within the past five years the experiment stations have devoted attention to poultry, thus recognizing its importance. A census of poultry and eggs taken in the state of Missouri discloses the fact that the amount sent out of the state in one year was quite large, being nearly \$7,000,000, which is perhaps a larger sum than was derived from the sales of any other products of the farms, animal or vegetable, the amount not including articles consumed within the state or the sales made therein. When a state can export poultry and eggs to the value of \$7,000,000, it means a larger sum than is usually realized from exports, and it places the poultry industry on a high plane.

TROUGHS IN WINTER.

During the summer the water-fountains are the best utensils to employ for providing water to the fowls, but they should now be stored away and water given in wooden troughs. Fountains will break when the water is frozen, but the troughs cannot easily be so injured, and can also be cleaned. The water trough or fountain is the most important utensil used by the poultrymen, and demands daily attention, as it is the source from which all contagious diseases are spread among the members of the flock. The best method of providing water without incurring such risk is yet an unsolved problem, but cleanliness will prevent many diseases.

CUT STRAW ON THE FLOOR.

It is well to again call attention to the importance of using cut straw on the poultry-house floor after cold weather begins, as it serves to keep the house warm. Leaves are also excellent, but the supply is soon exhausted. It is important to cut the straw short. If only one inch in length, all the better, and use it liberally, spreading it on the floor to a depth of two or three inches. When feeding whole grain to the hens scatter the grains in the cut straw, and do the same with millet-seed. The hens will be induced to scratch, which will be beneficial to them, promote the appetite and induce laying.

WORK THAT IS NECESSARY.

Profit can be obtained in any branch of industry only by close attention to details and the application of labor. It is impossible for women and children to properly manage a large flock of hens during severe weather. It is not a woman's work, although hundreds of farmers so regard poultry-raising, and that is where they make a mistake. If a man expects poultry to pay he must give the fowls a man's attention. Women cannot go out and shovel snow, clean out the poultry-houses, prepare the food properly, and attend to the many details, as it is taxing them to perform a line of work not within their province. When farmers get rid of the supposition and custom that the poultry on the farm must be cared for by women they will make quite a stride forward, and learn that the hens can give as large profits as the cows, in proportion to capital invested in them. Women may be allowed to manage a small flock in spring and summer, but in winter they will find the work too severe and the conditions very unfavorable.

LAYING IN NOVEMBER.

Every hen on the farm should now be ready for laying. If any of them are beginning to molt, or have not quite gotten over that process, they should be sent to market, as they will not lay during the whole winter, and it does not pay to give them the room that should be provided for the laying hens. It is an old and oft-repeated rule that if a hen does not begin to lay before cold weather sets in she will not begin until spring weather, and the rule has been confirmed. It is the great armies of non-laying hens that take away the profits of the flocks. They are retained because of their appearance, and give promise of soon beginning to lay, but it is delusive, as they simply postpone their work until spring. In their behalf it may be stated, however, that they begin early in the spring and do good service after they commence; but the point is, can the farmer afford to support them in idleness three months in order to have them do the most of their work at a time when eggs are lower and the profits smaller?

LIGHT BRAHMAS.

Every bird having feathered legs is not a Brahma or Cochin, and the breed is condemned by some for faults that do not belong to it, simply because many do not know what a pure-bred Light Brahma is. The description of a Light Brahma is as follows: Pea-comb (a large comb with a smaller one on each side of a large one, the whole, however, being a small comb resembling a partially opened pea-pod). The plumage is white, except the hackle, saddle, tail and some of the wing-feathers. The legs are yellow, with heavy feathering down the sides, which extends to the ends of the toes. The beak is yellow, the upper mandible having a dark stripe. A full-grown male should weigh twelve pounds and a hen ten pounds. The Brahma cannot fly, and is therefore one of the best breeds for yards and low fences. It is also a very hardy breed, seeming to be adapted to any climate.

SAND IN THE FOOD.

Sand is no substitute for gravel, and the mixing of sand in the food is useless. When coarse grit is swallowed by the fowl it is voided before it becomes as fine as sand. Grit provides the mechanical appliances for grinding the food in the gizzard. It really cuts the food, hence the sharper the edges the more it is preferred by poultry. When the grit becomes worn until round and smooth it is passed on as useless. In using grit, therefore, endeavor to secure that which is hard and sharp. Sand is of no value whatever as grit.

CROSSING WITH MONGRELS.

It is claimed that by using mongrels for crossing, that is, the grading up of a flock by using a pure-bred male with mongrel hens, vigor will be obtained, as the losses among mongrels is greater than with pure breeds. It is true that something may be gained by selecting a few of the best from a large flock of mongrels to be mated with pure-bred males, but to use a mongrel flock without culling will not be profitable, and the vigor of the flock will not be improved thereby.

THANKSGIVING SALES.

The best time to send poultry to market is not about the period of Thanksgiving, but just after the Christmas week has passed. It is probable that many farmers take occasion to cull out their inferior stock, such as old roosters, thus assisting to increase the number sent, but they simply give them away by so doing. Commission merchants complain that they have more difficulty in satisfying shippers during Thanksgiving week than at any time, as there is a supposition that anything will sell because the demand is great. The fact is it is just the time when the market is crowded. The proper course is to keep the poor stock and feed heavily on grain until after Christmas, when better prices can then be obtained and the quality of the poultry will also be superior.

FROZEN COMBS.

When the comb becomes frozen or frosted there will be an end to the hen so afflicted until the injured member heals, which may require one or two months. Combs usually become frozen at night, when the birds are on the roosts, and it happens more frequently when there is a small flow of air from a crack or nail-hole than when the birds are exposed to a large volume of air. The prevention is to provide warm houses at night and wind-breaks of some kind during the day. Should a comb become frozen, anoint it with ichthyol once a day.

THE COST OF AN EGG.

The cost of an egg in the eastern states is estimated at one cent, but this depends on the prices of grain. If meat, milk, cut bone, chopped clover and cooked potatoes are given, the cost will be less; not because the meat can be purchased at less than the grain, but because the feeding of a variety and a balanced ration will induce the hens to lay more eggs. The greater the number of eggs laid, the lower the cost proportionately, and it is possible to produce eggs at a cost of only half a cent each.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ALUM FOR CANKER.—I have tried alum-water with success for cankers in fowls, and as I have not seen this given in FARM AND FIRESIDE, I thought it might be of benefit to some one. I put alum in the water, also in the dough. If the fowl is too ill to eat or drink, I take a spoon and pour some down its throat. I have cured in every instance, and cured the same fowl more than once. Somerset, Ky. M. H. N.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Does Not Grow.—A. W., Duluth, Minn., writes: "Why is it that out of five white Leghorn males four are thrifty and the other does not grow at all?"
REPLY:—Individuals differ; the bird may have been injured when young, or afflicted with lice. Such cases are very frequent, as no two fowls are exactly alike.
Roup in Turkeys.—O. B., Gliden, Ia., writes: "My turkeys have roup; heads are swollen, eyes water, and there is a discharge from the nostrils. I have lost none yet, but they have been sick a month."
REPLY:—It is the first stage of roup. Keep them out of drafts, under a shed. Give more meat and less grain. Anoint heads and faces with vaseline and inject a few drops of equal parts of peroxide of hydrogen and water into each nostril. It is laborious to attempt remedies.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Asparagus Culture.—J. L. P., Selma, Ala. Request Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., to send you Farmers' Bulletin No. 61—"Asparagus Culture."

Rennet Tablets—A Correction.—J. L. H., Brownwood, Tex. You can get rennet tablets for cheese-making from Chr. Hansen's Laboratory, Box 1102, Little Falls, N. Y. A wrong address was inadvertently given in the reply to your query published in the September 15th number.

Ginseng-growing.—G. B., Buda, Ills. Whoever tries ginseng as a money crop should not do so with high expectations or hopes of speedy returns. It will take years to produce salable roots, and then only under the right conditions; namely, partial shade, soil filled with humus, etc.

Fine Butter-making.—J. H. W., Nasel, Wash. No better butter is made than that which is made at some private dairies. This product is usually sold direct to consumers at prices higher than creamery butter brings on the open market. To learn the art take a winter course in the dairy school of some agricultural college.

Wintering Sweet Potatoes.—W. P., Harrison, Neb. For keeping large quantities of sweet potatoes through the winter, growers use houses or cellars especially constructed or fitted up for that purpose. Small quantities can be kept in close barrels or boxes, packed in alternate layers with dry sand, and stored in a dry place where the temperature ranges from 40 to 75 degrees Fahr.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

Note.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Spavin.—J. P. S., Downing, Wis. Please see article on spavin in FARM AND FIRESIDE of November 15th.

Ulceration.—C. H. N., Sioux City, Ia. According to your description your mare suffers from ulceration either in some part of the respiratory passages or in the lungs, and probably will die. Still, I advise you to have her examined by a competent veterinarian.

Little "Lumps"—Tuberculosis.—E. M., Alma City, Minn. Unless the "lumps" you describe are warts I cannot answer your question. Leave them alone and in time they will disappear.—Whether your cow has tuberculosis or not is best decided by subjecting her to the tuberculin test.

Froths at the Mouth.—S. M. S., Atwood, Kan. If your horse froths at the mouth, and neither an unsuitable bit nor diseased teeth is at fault, the frothing almost beyond a doubt is caused by feeding clover or hay contaminated with fungous spores. Removing the cause constitutes the remedy.

Looks Fishy.—E. D., Minburn, Ia. I agree with you, the diagnosis of an inversion of the bladder in both cow and mare, and the claims of your "crack" veterinarian, according to your statements, look to me rather "fishy," too. Concerning requests to answer letters by mail, please read what is said at the head of the veterinary column.

Either Lung-worms or Tuberculosis.—P. F., Garden City, Kan. According to your description your calf either suffers from the presence of numerous lung-worms in the finer bronchi or from advanced tuberculosis, most likely from the former. The calf probably will die before long, and then a post-mortem examination will show of what disease it died.

Possibly Actinomycosis—An Obstruction in the Respiratory Passages.—L. J. S., Antioch, Neb. What you describe first may be a case of actinomycosis, or so-called lump-jaw. Your other cow has some obstruction somewhere in the respiratory passage. Have her examined by a veterinarian and find out where it is and whether it can be removed or not.

Some Obstacle in the Respiratory Passages.—W. F. C., Bluff Creek, Ia. Your pig suffers from some obstacle, perhaps a malformation or a morbid growth in the respiratory passages, but most likely in the nasal cavity. I do not see any reason whatever why the pork of the pig should not be good to eat. After you have butchered the pig, please report to me what you have found.

Scrotal Hernia.—E. B., St. Joseph, Ill. If your colt had a scrotal hernia before the same was castrated, the man who performed the operation should have performed it in such a way, which he easily could have done, as would have cured the hernia. If he did not, he is guilty either of gross ignorance or of gross negligence. Even if he was not told that the colt at that time had such a hernia, it was his duty to make an examination of the abdominal ring before he performed the operation. As it is now, the colt having been castrated and having a hernia on both sides, the operation to be performed is much more difficult and must not be intrusted to any one but an expert veterinary surgeon. If, in the first place, the castration had been performed by a reliable veterinarian, everything would be all right now.

A Lame Colt—A Fistula on the Withers.—W. H., Calhoun, Wis. Since you will have to call on a veterinarian to treat and to operate on the fistulous withers of your horse (if you undertake to treat such a fistula yourself, even with the very best advice, I can predict that you will meet with failure), I advise you to let him also examine your lame colt.

Wants to Feed a Horse on Corn-stalks.—H. M. H., Bengema, Mich. Corn-stalks are very poor food for horses; they contain too much cellulose (woody fiber) to be digested by the digestive organs of a horse. You cannot keep the "blood and general health of a horse in good condition" on a corn-stalk diet. You might just as well feed shavings or sawdust.

Cut in Barbed-wire Fence.—J. W. R., Lecompton, Kan. As the wound of your mare about which you write is already an old one, and as you only state where it is, but do not say anything except that it is large, about its extent, about the parts that have been injured, and the changes that have taken place since the accident happened, I cannot answer your questions, and have to advise you to have the mare examined and treated by a competent veterinarian.

Chronic Tympanitis.—J. W. D., Marshfield, Mo. If your heifer is nearly always bloated, but otherwise well and in good condition, the fault is much more with the quantity and quality of the food than with the animal. Avoid feeding all kinds of food that have a tendency to ferment, but particularly clover and food partially spoiled; also do not feed too large quantities of any food at a time, and the digestive powers of the animal will in time improve and the bloating will cease.

Premature Birth.—H. B. W., Wakefield, Kan. Your neighbor's cows unquestionably aborted, and their fetuses, being born destitute of hair, cannot have been over seven months old. Therefore, your neighbor either made a mistake in his reckoning or the cows did not conceive at the time he thinks they did. There is no freak about it. Your other question is altogether out of my line. You will probably find the information desired if you will consult the advertising columns of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Tetanus—Without Foundation.—S. D., West Depere, Wis. The symptoms of your pig which you describe are those of tetanus. It is an infectious but not a contagious disease. The germs, the tetanus bacilli, which produce it enter the animal organism through sores, wounds and lesions, and are frequently found in black soil rich in humus. It is without any foundation, and there is no truth in it that a heifer's first calf will not make a good cow, except it be that the heifer has been bred when merely a calf.

Swelled Legs in a Young Horse.—W. M. S. H., Ironton, Mo. A young horse, especially if a "cold-blooded" animal, is even more apt to get "stocked," or to have swelled legs, after having been worked too hard or too long (been overworked to exhaustion) than an older animal. Whether a young horse should be shod or not depends altogether upon the work to be performed and upon the condition of the roads, etc. A young horse needs shoeing under the same conditions which an older horse requires shoes.

Unthrifty and Poor.—J. T. B., Reece, Kan. Your heifer undoubtedly suffers from what is usually called a cachectic disease, and her recovery is exceedingly doubtful, if not impossible. Whether her cachectic condition is the result of existing tuberculosis (very likely), or whether it is caused by some other chronic disease, cannot be decided from your communication. If you desire certainty and do not mind the expense of applying the tuberculin test, write to Prof. Dr. Paul Fischer, of the Kansas State Agricultural College, at Manhattan.

Chronic Catarrh and General Debility.—P. R., Henderson, Neb. Your horse, according to your description, appears to be an old, overworked animal, which for a long time has been suffering from a chronic catarrh. If it were spring instead of fall, something probably benefiting the animal and restoring the same to usefulness might be done. A medicinal treatment is restricted in such a case to a so-called symptomatic treatment, and is of very little consequence. Of somewhat more importance is a well-regulated diet and excellent care, but the trouble is such a horse before showing much improvement will "eat his head off." If it were spring I would advise you to send the animal for several months to pasture. If you do not mind expenses and probable disappointment have the horse treated by a veterinarian.

Several Questions.—W. M. S. H., Ironton, Mo. Although your questions have once been answered, I will answer them once more. A young horse, especially if a cold-blooded animal, is apt to have swelled legs and joints if worked beyond his strength and endurance, and if his legs, particularly his pasterns, are not cleaned, but left dirty and muddy. Shoeing or going barefooted has nothing to do with it, unless it be that the hoofs are worn off or broken away to such an extent as to cause soreness in the feet and lameness, when swelling will be a natural result. Whether colts at an age of two and one half years should be shod depends upon circumstances. Colts need shoes under the same conditions under which they are needed by older horses. Age does not make any difference. If cows should contract laminitis (founder) the treatment must be essentially the same as that bestowed upon a horse suffering from that disease, no matter whether the cow has been eating corn or something else.

Swelled Leg.—J. C. O., Humboldt, Ia. The original ailment of your mare was nothing more nor less than local pyemia. At first she undoubtedly had small sores, so-called scratches; through these sores some septic organisms (bacteria) found an entrance, and it was these bacteria that caused the swelling and the abscess which you call a boil. That the latter was simply an abscess and not a farcy ulcer is abundantly proven by (1) the ready healing and (2) the non-appearance of new farcy boils or ulcers. If that abscess had been a farcy ulcer, as your local veterinarian told you, it possibly might have healed if it had been treated with strong antiseptics; but even if it had, soon other farcy ulcers would have made their appearance, and the mare by this time would have had a good many and would hardly have been in that good condition in which you say she is. In regard to the yet swelled leg I advise you to follow the advice given to J. M. B. R., Santa Fe, Ind., in this column. The callosity around the pastern-joint is more or less permanent. It may be somewhat reduced by the same treatment, but not very much. It is already too old.

Swelled Leg.—J. M. B. R., Santa Fe, Ind. Give the horse some exercise during the day, and after the exercise give the swelled leg a good rubbing with the hands; this done, put on as smooth as possible a bandage of wooden lannel. This bandage should not be wider than about three or three and one half inches and be sufficiently long, not less than five or six yards, and the winding should be commenced at the hoof. Keep this bandage on until morning, then take it off, give the leg another rubbing, and let the horse have some exercise during the day. Continue this treatment for several weeks, and you will succeed in permanently reducing the swelling just so much as you can temporarily reduce it by exercise, but probably not more.

Swelling in the Parotid Region.—F. E. K., Milan, Ill. Your description of the swelling or enlargement in the parotid region (below the ears) on both sides of the head of your mare indicates an accumulation of pus or mucus (perhaps purulent mucus) in both air-sacs; but as this is an ailment which can be removed only by a surgical operation, requiring for its performance a very good surgeon, and as the possibility, as far as one can judge from your description, is not excluded that the swellings described may be caused by the presence of tumors, melanomas, for instance, which is the more probable, nay, almost certain, if your mare is a gray or white, I have to advise you to have the animal examined by a veterinarian. A melanoma, especially at that place, must in no way be interfered with, for if it is, it is sure to assume a malignant character.

Epizootic Ophthalmia.—C. S., Randolph, Kan. What you describe is epizootic ophthalmia of cattle, a disease which, during the last ten years, has been of rather frequent occurrence; particularly has it been frequent when rather hot and dusty weather is prevailing during the summer and early fall, and among cattle which graze on so-called commons. The disease undoubtedly is infectious, but does not seem to be contagious or to be communicated by mere contact from one animal to another. It usually terminates in final recovery and a restoration of the eyesight, but leads to blindness in all such cases in which abscesses are formed in the cornea. As to treatment, an eye-water composed either of a one-per-cent (1 to 1,000) solution of corrosive sublimate in distilled water, or of a four-per-cent (4 to 250) solution of nitrate of silver in distilled water, applied in a judicious manner three times a day, and used in time at the beginning of the morbid process, will have a favorable effect, and will, as a rule, prevent abscess formation. To keep the affected animals away from the dusty pastures and commons, and to protect their eyes against bright and glaring light, is very essential.

Impaired Digestion.—E. S. P., Poplar Mount, Cal. Your mare suffers from impaired digestion, but whether the same is caused by the presence of worms, is the result of an existing chronic intestinal catarrh, or is the consequence of consuming too large quantities of food, cannot be determined from your communication. It is true, you say she has pinworms, and very likely you apply this term to passing-off specimens of the mature form of *Sclerostomum equinum*, also known as *Strongylus armatus*, a worm which does very little damage and soon makes its exit after it has arrived at maturity, but which is very injurious to horses while yet in its immature form. The trouble is, while in the latter form this worm lives, principally at least, in the anterior mesenteric artery, where it produces an aneurism and thus becomes a cause of a great many intestinal disorders, but where it is out of reach of any medicine, and from where it cannot be dislodged. Still, as the worm, arrived at a certain stage of development, will emigrate through the walls of blood-vessels into the intestines, and then finally, when arrived at maturity, make its exit with the excrements, an aneurism, after it has become deserted by the worms which produced it, will be comparatively harmless, provided no new invasion of worm-brood takes place. This (a new invasion) can be prevented only if the horse is never allowed to drink any stagnant water, or any surface water apt to be contaminated with the worm-brood. Consequently, as the mature worms pass off with the excrements, water must be avoided which is contaminated with the drainage of a barn-yard or of any place at which horse-dung has been deposited. Water from a good deep well or from a good spring is the safest. In regard to your case I advise you to feed your mare regularly with sound and nutritious food, not too much at a time, and to water her exclusively from either a good deep well or from a spring.

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Our Fireside.

SEND THEM TO BED WITH A KISS.

O mothers, so weary, discouraged,
Worn out with the cares of the day,
You often grow cross and impatient,
Complain of the noise and the play;
For the day brings so many vexations,
So many things going amiss;
But, mothers, whatever may vex you,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

The dear little feet wander often,
Perhaps, from the pathway of right,
The dear little hands find new mischief
To try you from morning till night.
But think of the desolate mothers
Who'd give all the world for your bliss,
And, as thanks for your infinite blessings,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

For some day their noise will not vex you,
The silence will hurt you far more;
You will long for the sweet children voices,
For a sweet childish face at the door.
And to press a child's face to your bosom,
You'd give all the world just for this:
For the comfort 'twill bring you in sorrow,
Send the children to bed with a kiss!

THE ROAD COMMISSIONER

BY ANNIE M. BURKE.

CHAPTER III.

THE girls saw nothing of their father that evening till he came in to supper. His face was flushed and excited, but he said nothing throughout the meal till the two hired men had finished eating and had gone out. Then he looked up at the girls.

"I don't want any of you to have anything more to do with that young Ferguson," he announced, peremptorily. "I came across him in the blacksmith-shop to-day, and we had a quarrel. The young upstart said some things that I'll not forget, and I don't want any of you to be seen in his company five minutes!"

"All right, sir! We won't! We won't!" promptly responded six voices.

"I don't want you to so much as speak to him when you meet him, or have anything to do with him in any way!" further insisted Mr. Franklin.

Again there was a chorus of "We won't, sir, we won't!" but as before there were only six voices in it. Mr. Franklin looked sharply at Ernestine.

"You hear me, Ernestine?" he said, sternly. Ernestine was in no hurry to reply. "What did Ollie say to you, father?" she asked, coolly.

"What did he say to me?" ejaculated Mr. Franklin, angrily. "That's neither here nor there! You've heard what I commanded—you're not to speak to him!"

There was a silence. Then, "If Ollie really said anything insulting to you—" began Ernestine, getting agitated in spite of herself.

Mr. Franklin struck the table with his fist, and all the girls started.

"You heard what I ordered, girl?" he thundered.

"Yes, sir," said Ernestine in a low tone. Mr. Franklin immediately got up and went out as if the matter were settled.

"Ollie didn't say anything to him worth repeating," said Ernestine, directly he was gone. "That's why he wouldn't tell when I asked—Ollie didn't say anything!"

"Oh, Ernestine!" exclaimed the others, shocked, "you don't mean to say father was to blame for the quarrel!"

Ernestine deigned no reply to this, but curled her lip scornfully as she got up from the table. She lit a lamp and went away to the cellar, where she had left some work unfinished before supper. When she was gone the others remained around the table talking about her.

"I do believe she's in sympathy with Ollie!" they exclaimed, one after another. "Just think of it!—to want Ollie to get in against father!"

They stayed there talking about it in low tones for a long time, and when their sister came back up from the cellar they took pains to show her that they felt unfriendly toward her. Ernestine, for her part, paid no attention to them, but went on minding her own business—she always had a great faculty for minding her own business.

However, the content and happiness of the Franklin household was spoiled for that evening, and for many evenings afterward. Ernestine's pretty little face was hard and cold, her father's was clouded and angry, the six girls were unkind toward Ernestine and apprehensive toward their father. All were troubled at heart, and all suffered from the dismal change in the home life. None, moreover, felt it more keenly than did Mr. Franklin, who had always been very fond of the jolly, lively place he called home.

Then after awhile matters worked themselves into a still worse shape. The girls went to singing-school in the district school-house one night. There was a large crowd out and the singing-teacher was late. The pupils had not yet been called to order, but

were standing about among the seats, talking and laughing and joking. The chief subject of the chattering and jesting was the election and who would get in for road commissioner. Even the girls were interested in it and told the boys how smoothly things would go if only women could vote.

There was one group in particular that seemed to be having a merry conversation. It was a group of young men, and they were assembled in the front part of the room near the teacher's desk. The leader in this group was a graceful, good-looking young fellow with a pleasant voice and a light laugh. His cheeks were browned by the sun, but his eyes were very clear, and his brown hair had glints of gold in its waves. This was Ollie Ferguson.

They were discussing the late quarrel in the blacksmith-shop, and one of the group was ready to make fun of "Old Franklin" or to joke at his expense than was young Ferguson. However, after awhile a chorus of girls' voices, talking and laughing together, was heard entering at the door. They were making a great deal of noise, and several of them were talking at once, so everybody knew it was the Franklin girls. When Ollie heard them he shot a quick glance in their direction. They were just coming through the door. Ruthie and Maimie, the two little girls, came first, then Mollie and Jessie, then Debby and Jen. Last came Ernestine—always last, always grave and sweet, came Ernestine. She was dressed, as her habit was, much more quietly than her sisters. Also she never curled her hair or frizzed it as other girls

The other Franklin girls looked shocked, and nudged each other, and whispered, "Just look at Ernestine!" "What'll father say?" "Isn't she just awful!"

But the greatest shock remained for them yet. It was when singing-school was over, and they, after pushing their way through the crowd, stood outside the door waiting for Ernestine to join them. They saw her coming pretty soon, but in the dim light they could see a pair of straight shoulders and a man's hat towering over her. Then they realized to their amazement that Ernestine was letting Ollie "see her home just as usual."

More than ever now they thought, "What'll father say?" And all the way home this was all they could think of or give voice to—"What'll father say?"

CHAPTER IV.

When the Franklin girls reached home they knew before they entered the house that their father was sitting up waiting for them. They saw him as they passed the window, reading by the shade-lamp that stood on the table. When they opened the door he looked up very quickly. Ruthie and Maimie came in first, then Deb, then Jessie, then Mollie, then Jen. When Jen was inside she shut the door behind her.

"Where's Ernestine?" their father asked, immediately.

There was no answer, and he asked again, and rather sharply this time, "Where's Ernestine?"



SHE LIT A LAMP AND
WENT AWAY TO THE CELLAR.

AT LAST ERNESTINE BURST
INTO TEARS.
"WELL, I PROMISE," SHE SAID.

did. Ollie Ferguson was much given to noticing her way of dressing, and sometimes he thought there was nothing on earth so pretty as the dark, severe little dresses and capes she wore, and no arrangement of hair so charming as the smooth, plain way she combed hers back. He was sure, too, that no other toilet could have shown off the exceeding prettiness of her features so well as this one did.

However, to-night he did not notice her dress at all, but eagerly scanned her face to note its expression. Then pretty soon he left his companions and started down the aisle toward her. As he approached the Franklin group he saw at once that their manner changed, and that they became cold and repellant. None of them would look at him, and Ruthie and Maimie crowded away as he passed them in the aisle. Deb and Mollie were nearly as bad. But he paid no attention to them. He let them all pass till he came to the last one, then he held out his hand and said, distinctly:

"Good-evening, Ernestine!"

Ernestine hesitated and looked distressed, but after awhile she reached out her hand and said, "Good-evening."

She would have gone with her sisters after that, but Ollie immediately engaged her in conversation. He was skilled enough in the art of detaining girls. He talked about anything and everything except the election, and that he carefully avoided. Very soon, too, he had Ernestine chattering and laughing just as if nothing had happened—Ollie always could make Ernestine talk and laugh better than any one else could.

"She—she's coming, sir, I think," answered two or three voices, flutteringly.

"Coming!" he repeated. "Is she alone? Why isn't she with you?"

Again there was silence, and all the girls looked guilty.

Mr. Franklin rose to his feet suddenly. "Is young Ferguson with her?" he demanded.

They looked frightened, and he asked the question the second time, "Is young Ferguson with her?"

Still no one dared answer, then he looked sternly at the eldest.

"Tell me this minute, Debby! Is Ferguson with her?"

"Yes, sir, I—I think so, sir," stammered Deb.

He stared at them a moment, then suddenly sat down again and resumed his reading. But he looked dangerous. The girls remained huddled together near the door, and all was still in the room for the next few minutes. But pretty soon they heard the gate out at the end of the path swing open and shut, then there were footsteps on the walk, and they could hear Ollie's light laugh and his pleasant voice.

Mr. Franklin instantly got up and went to the door. He opened it and stood on the threshold. Ollie and Ernestine had now just stepped upon the porch.

"That'll do, Ferguson! You needn't come any further!" Mr. Franklin said between his teeth.

There was a startled silence from the couple on the porch, and Mr. Franklin proceeded:

"I don't care to see you on my place

again, nor in company with any of my family. I've had enough of you, and more than enough!"

There was still a moment of silence from the couple on the porch, then Ollie spoke out fearlessly:

"It's all nonsense," he said, "bringing that election business into this. The election has nothing to do with this matter—"

Mr. Franklin interrupted him. "That'll do!" he ordered, rapping sharply on the door-jamb. "I don't care to hear any points from you on this subject! I've said enough—I don't want to see anything more of you about my place or in company with any of my family; that's all!"

Ollie waited a moment before he replied, then he said with an ugly laugh, "I think Ernestine ought to decide that!"

The older man was furious, and stepped excitedly out on the porch. "You gahhy young upstart!" he cried. "If you stand on this porch another minute I'll put the dog on you! If you stay another second!"

Ollie did not hurry any. Perhaps he was not afraid of dogs. He took plenty of time to getting off the porch, then turned back to say, with another disagreeable laugh, "You can act as ugly as you like about this, but it won't win the election for you. You won't get in for road commissioner!"

Mr. Franklin's reply was unintelligible from anger. Ollie did not listen for it, anyway, but went on down the path, and the girls heard the gate click after him. Mr. Franklin turned back into the door, and Ernestine dodged in under his elbow. She was white and frightened, and her eyes, which were dark blue, looked nearly black.

Mr. Franklin shut the door, then went deliberately over to the middle of the room where Ernestine stood, and shook his finger in her face. She backed away from the threatening finger, but he followed her up with it till she was against the wall; then he bent over her, and with teeth showing, said:

"If ever I see you with that fellow again—if ever I hear of your being in his company five minutes—if you're ever known to talk to him or have one word to say to him, I'll shut you in your room, and keep you there a month! If that won't do, I'll keep you in for a year! You hear me now? That's all!"

He went back to the table and sat down to read again as if he had settled the matter. There was dead silence in the room for a little while, the six girls being still huddled together near the door, and Ernestine remained fixed to the spot where her father had left her. Then pretty soon Deb and Jen began moving meekly about the room putting back chairs and locking doors for the night, for it was late bedtime.

These seven girls had always been in the habit of kissing their father good-night. Since their mother died it had been their custom, but to-night only six girls filed up to his chair for the bedtime kiss. The seventh was wanting. He was surprised and hurt at this. Notwithstanding all his anger and all that had just passed between them, it somehow seemed to him that Ernestine ought to have at least offered to kiss him. He could not remember of ever before being so much out with one of his girls that she would not kiss him at bedtime.

The days that followed this were such cheerless ones. All the old gaiety and rioting was stopped. It did not seem like the same house. Some of the girls were dismal, some were complaining, some were cross and irritable with each other, all were markedly unfriendly toward Ernestine, at times scarcely speaking to her. If Ernestine was at all sensitive on this point, she must have suffered a good deal these days. But she was so cold and silent they could not tell.

One night in bed she lay awake thinking. The sisters occupied a large double room containing three beds and a cot. To-night Ernestine had the cot. She thought the other girls must all be asleep, for it was after eleven, but pretty soon she heard a movement about one of the beds on the farther side of the room, then a white figure glided across the carpet to her cot. It was Jessie.

"Are you asleep, Ernestine?" she whispered.

"No," said Ernestine. Jessie knelt down beside the cot. "Ernestine!" she whispered. "I'm not mad at you! I like you as well as I do any of the girls, and I'm sorry I've been so unfriendly to you."

"All right," said Ernestine, rather indifferently.

"I know you're having a hard time, and I can't bear to see you so miserable," continued Jessie. "I told the girls they shouldn't treat you so, but they wouldn't mind!"

"All right," said Ernestine again.

There was a pause after this. Then, "Won't you talk to me, Ernestine?" whispered Jessie. "I can't bear to have things going so. Won't you talk to me?"

"I can't, Jessie," said Ernestine, with some emotion, at last.

"If you'd just be nice to father again and let him see you're sorry for letting Ollie take you home," suggested Jessie. "Everything 'ud be all right then. The girls would be friendly to you again, and father wouldn't be angry any more, and everything 'ud be nice and jolly as it was before."

"There was such awful things said," murmured Ernestine. "I'm afraid he'll hate me and never want to speak to me again."

"Who? Father?"

"No; Ollie," said Ernestine.

"Oh!" said Jessie, somewhat taken back. "But I was talking about father, you know, Ernestine—if you'd just make up with him! We're all so miserable! I found Ruthie crying behind the pantry door to-day, and Deb is so cross!"

"I'm afraid Ollie'll never forgive the things father said," pursued Ernestine, disregarding Jessie's line of thought. "For all his easy temper and pleasant ways I know Ollie won't take everything."

Jessie stared at her sister in the dim light. "Ernestine," said she, "don't you see I'm thinking of father all the time and you're thinking of Ollie! I can't see for the life of me why you hang onto Ollie so when it makes so much trouble—at home here, I mean. You can get other beaux, Ernestine. There's Sandy Allen—he used to want you, and he's a good, quiet young man that father'd like—"

"I won't have him!" said Ernestine, speaking shortly.

Jessie considered a moment. "Yes, that's so; Sandy is kind of homely and stupid," she said. "But now there's George Stedman—I believe you could get him! He hasn't got as nice ways as Ollie, to be sure, but he's just as handsome—"

Ernestine suddenly pushed her sister away. "You don't know anything, Jessie!" she said.

Jessie was hurt, and Ernestine repented.

"I didn't mean to be unkind, Jessie, but you don't understand. I can't bear the thought of any one else!"

"And you can bear the thought of Ollie after all the trouble it makes for you?" asked Jessie, incredulously.

"Jessie," said Ernestine, in an excited whisper, "you must never tell the girls, but, do you know, I'd go through fire and water for Ollie!"

"Oh, Ernestine!" exclaimed Jessie, greatly shocked. "Do you like him better than our own folks? Would you rather he'd get the election than father?"

"I don't care anything about the election!" said Ernestine, emphatically. "I don't care who gets in, but I don't want Ollie to be mad at me—I don't want him to think that I—"

"But you know, Ernestine, you can't have anything to do with him now," Jessie reminded her. "After what father said you can't even speak to him!"

"I know—I know," she replied. "I can't now, but after awhile when the election's over and everything quiet again—"

There was a movement about the bed on the farther side of the room. "Jessie! Jessie! where are you?" called out the sleepy voice of Jessie's bed-fellow.

"Yes, I'm here, Deb! I'm coming! I'm coming!" and Jessie hurriedly got up from her knees.

Ernestine grabbed her gown. "Jessie, you mustn't tell Deb or the others what I said about Ollie! Never, Jessie! I wouldn't have told any one but you!"

"I won't! I won't! Never, Ernestine!" And Jessie sped back across the floor.

After that Ernestine had one friend in the family. Jessie did not understand her sister, she could not see how it was possible for her to care as much or more for a stranger than for their own folks, but she pitied Ernestine and loved her, and that was enough for the good-hearted Jessie. However, the household machinery did not run any more smoothly on account of this, and they soon found out that their trouble had not yet reached its height.

There was a church sociable in the neighborhood one night. The Franklin girls, all but Ruthie and Maimie, went, and Ollie was there. At first they did not meet him at all; neither did he seem to have any desire to encounter them. But after awhile, when the fun was at its height, the crowd got to playing a game where all the young men won their partners by lottery. Whether Ollie schemed any or not, I cannot say; but once during this game he won Ernestine. When he approached her Ernestine looked frightened and began to move away.

"Don't leave me, Ernestine!" pleaded Ollie.

Ernestine hesitated and looked apprehensively toward two of her sisters who were near. Both were watching her keenly.

"Don't mind the girls," urged Ollie. "That Deb sees as much as a dozen girls, anyway; so does Jen. I only want to talk to you a minute—just one minute, Ernestine."

Ollie's voice was charming, and his face—she had never seen it thoroughly grave and concerned before. "I can't go away from him!" she said in her heart. Ollie must have seen this in her face.

"I just want to ask one thing, Ernestine," he said, bending over her. "Do you agree with what your father said to me, that night on the porch, I mean? Do you subscribe to all he said, Ernestine?"

"No," whispered Ernestine.

Instantly a light broke over Ollie's face. "I thought not! I thought not!" he said.

Then Ernestine faced him with unusual spirit. "But whatever made you take that nomination, Ollie? You knew father was running on the other ticket! You knew it would make trouble! What made you take

it? You knew father's temp—father's ways, I mean!"

Ollie smiled down on her. He had never seen the cold, pale little face show so much spirit before, and then her features were so pretty. "I didn't mean to, Ernestine," he said, earnestly. "Honest, I didn't know they were going to put me on till I was at the caucus; then they told me I mustn't go back on them. They said I was—was popular, you know! I might save the ticket, they thought. Then, Ernestine, there's no denying the Creekers are in the right on the question. I'm sure you can see that for yourself. It ain't in reason to let one side have all the road commissioners!"

Ernestine made no reply, but looked anxiously at a curtain near by, behind which one of her sisters stood.

"She can't hear us," Ollie assured her.

"You're afraid she'll tell your father—yes, I know! But don't go yet! I'm not quite done. I want to say just one thing more. If I'd known it was going to make so much trouble, I wouldn't have taken it—the nomination, I mean. I won't lie. I'll own that I did think it would make a little trouble with your father, but not so much. I was careless, I'll admit, but if I'd known how much trouble it would make I'd have refused—honest I would—even if I could have saved every office on the ticket!"

"They're all watching me," murmured Ernestine, moving away.

She meant her sisters, and Ollie gave up this time and let her go. She withdrew from the game after that, but Ollie went on playing, and amused himself as the evening wore on taking note of the vindictive glances certain of the Franklin girls cast at him.

Going home that night not one of the girls would walk beside Ernestine or speak to her except Jessie. Ernestine had been bade enough before, but now—

When they reached home their father had gone to bed, but at breakfast next morning he was there. All went off quietly enough till the two hired men, as usual, got through eating first, and got up and went out. Then the father looked around on his girls.

"I suppose young Ferguson was out last night?" he remarked.

"Yes, sir," said one or two voices.

"Of course none of you spoke to him?" he questioned next.

There was no reply. He repeated the inquiry. Still there was no answer from the seven girls, all of whom were looking at their plates. Then he fixed his eyes on Debby—poor Deb, who had to stand so many things just because she was eldest!

"Debby, did any of you speak to Ferguson?" he demanded.

"I did not, sir!" said Deb, with a start.

"Did any of your sisters? Did—did Ernestine?" was the next telling question.

Deb hesitated woefully. They were all angry with Ernestine, of course; yet none would willingly bring down upon her head the fearful displeasure that threatened.

"Tell me this instant, Deb!" began the father. Then Ernestine herself came to the rescue. She kept her eyes cast down, and her face was the only cool one at the table. However, the spoon in her little hand was seen to tremble violently.

"Yes, father," said she; "I spoke to him."

"But only for a minute, sir!" cried Jessie, instantly. "Only for a second, father, and it was all Ollie's fault—every bit Ollie's fault—I saw him stop her!"

Mr. Franklin motioned her to be still. "Did you say you spoke to him?" he asked Ernestine, as if to make sure he heard aright. There was wonder in his face as well as anger.

"Yes, sir," said Ernestine.

Then he sat there staring at her. Ernestine had always looked like her mother, while the other six were like himself. He had never dared show a shade of favoritism among his crowd of girls, but down in the bottom of his heart he had always liked Ernestine a little the best. Since her trouble the girl's face had changed much. It was thinner, it was hollow in the temples, and there were blue shadows under her eyes. Never in her life had Ernestine's face so constantly reminded him of his dead wife's as lately, and never before was the resemblance so strong as just now.

"After all, she's my own little girl," he thought, as he sat there looking at her.

Then he got up and went around the table. He took a chair near her and laid his hand on her arm.

"You're my own little girl," he said. "You're like your mother, and I gave you her name—Ernestine! She was a good woman; I know you want to be one, too. I know you won't go back on your old father for this young fellow that has no claim on you at all."

Even against this Ernestine remained proof for awhile. Her sisters were amazed. How could she hold out so? When had their father pleaded thus with one of them before? But Mr. Franklin must have seen signs of yielding.

"They've been taunting me out in public," he went on. "Down in the store one day they told me the Creek people had up the most popular man, and they said I couldn't even keep my own girl from siding with Ollie Ferguson! Yes, they told me that. But I wasn't afraid, and I'm not now. I

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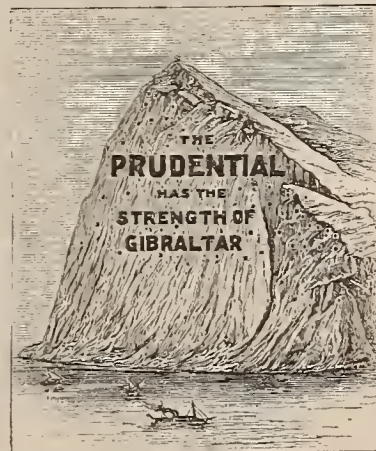
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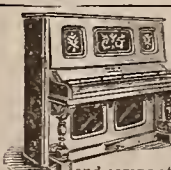
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know if I ask my little Ernestine to stand by her old father she'll do it. When I ask her never to speak to this Ferguson again, I know she'll promise me! Yes, I know she'll promise!"

At last Ernestine burst into tears. "Well, I promise," she said.

"You'll never speak to him again?"

"No, sir, never!"

He was satisfied with this. He patted her hair and called her his good little girl, and got up and went out. When he was gone the girls crowded around Ernestine and embraced her and told her how kind they would be to her again.

"Our house will be sunshiny again!" they said, joyously. "And we'll all be happy and jolly as we used to be, and it won't be dismal any more!"

Ernestine agreed to this, and said, yes, they must be happy again, though she looked rather dismal herself as she said it. However, the girls thought it was going to be right again. So Debby sang as she picked up the dishes, Jen whistled joyously as she went to help her father break corn for the calves, and Maimie and Ruthie raced and tumbled over each other on their way to the cow-yard.

But alas! This sunshine lasted only a little while. They soon saw it was not going to be all right with Ernestine. She had given up Ollie and wanted them all to be cheerful again, but she was not cheerful herself. She was more silent than ever, and went about with a pale, woebegone little face that told how unhappy she was. And when one member of the Franklin family was unhappy that meant that all the other members must be unhappy, too. So gloom settled down on the household again, and the girls grew cross and sharp with each other, and Mr. Franklin, who dearly loved the old-time fun and jollity, was sharper and crosser than any of them.

(To be continued.)

MANUFACTURED DIAMONDS.

If that ingenious animal man strays much farther along the paths of discovery and invention, poor old Mother Nature will find her occupation almost gone. The latest successful attempt of science to emulate the workings of natural laws has been in the making of diamonds. These marvelously beautiful minerals are simply crystallized carbon. The theory of their formation is that fiery, eruptive matter is thrown into an upper layer of earth rich in carbon, which, slowly cooling, assumes the crystalline form. The question occurred to a French scientist, "Why cannot I crystallize carbon, and so make diamonds?" He has recently performed experiments with wrought-iron carbon, which he melted and then very slowly cooled. Tiny but sparkling diamonds were the result. Almost simultaneously with the French discovery of the process of diamond manufacture a Russian chemist announced that he, too, could make artificial diamonds. Each man had carried on his investigations wholly without the knowledge of the work of the other, and, except that the Russian used silver carbon, the method and results were nearly the same. The stones are very small as yet, but it is said that it will soon be possible to make them of a marketable size.

THE TIN-PLATE INDUSTRY.

Fuller information as to the success of the tin-plate industry in this country is to the effect that it has been attained at the expense of considerably advancing the price of the article over that for which it can be furnished abroad. The great corporation consumers of tin-plate, it appears, however, are made exempt from this to a considerable degree by the drawback allowed them on the articles in tin-plate which they export. The general consumers are called upon to pay for the advantage to the nation in establishing a new industry. As to whether any gain has been made, that point is to be decided by estimating if the gain to a few individuals offsets the loss incurred by the community at large in enhanced prices.—Boston Herald.

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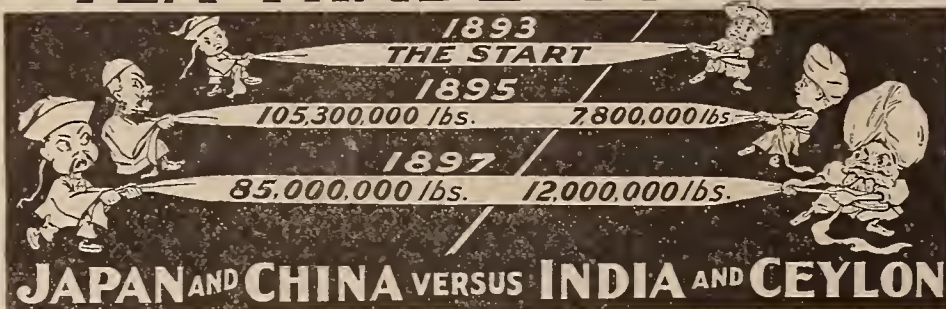
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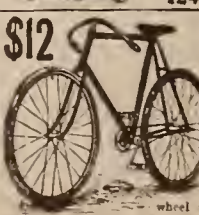
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CARE OF THE HANDS.

Certainly there is nothing about a woman that so quickly indicates her character as the appearance of her hands, and the way in which she uses them. To be entirely graceful, of course, every woman ought to be able to forget that she has hands, or at least to impress observers in that way; but to the average woman these necessary additions to her physique are a source of constant misery. When women walk they must have a package, a card-case, parasol or something that will give occupation to the hand, and the result is, as a rule, they are not easy in their movements. To walk with absolute comfort the hands should swing naturally at the sides, and so do their share of making up the proper pose of the body; but custom makes cowards of us all, and so we carry our hands about as if they themselves were burdens instead of instruments for supporting outside weight.

A certain amount of attention is necessary, as a matter of course; cleanliness occupies its normal position in regard to the hands and nails as it does when applied to the entire body, but when the proximity of Mother Earth is not even dreamed of, when the wished-for half moons are in evidence and obtrusive, and "stepmothers" are carefully cut away, it is well to stop right there, and not attempt to make ornaments of things that nature intended for use. The sight of overjeweled and overmanicured extremities that wander helplessly about in mid-air is not an inspiring one to the observant looker-on. Nature is never ungrateful, she knows her own needs, and if, instead of trying to make them pose on all occasions, the hands were given full liberty to follow their own impulses, we should soon have a new feature among womankind, a new grace that is well worth cultivating.

ARE MEN NEATER THAN WOMEN?

"Are women neater than men?" was a question recently asked by a cynical old bachelor who is a stern critic as to all that regards a woman's get-up. This was the reply: "Women are endowed with strange vagaries, and, while extremely fastidious in many ways, are very neglectful in others. Even the swellest society girl is not as particular as to the freshness of her collar and cuffs as the plain, every-day man of business; to change his linen at least once a day is a sort of religion with most men. With women it is different; they will inspect their collars and cuffs after a day's hard wear and decide that they will do, not recognizing the fact that if any doubt exists on the matter they should be consigned to the laundry without demur.

"Again, a man is much more concerned as to the state of his shoes than a woman; even the poor clerk on a meager salary spends his nickel a day for a shine without grudging; and if it be imperative that the nickel be saved, he gets up earlier in the morning and wields the blacking-brush himself. The woman will gown herself in Worth's or Paquin's latest creation and forget to look at her shoes; she is willing to condone the loss of one or two buttons and the consequent baggy appearance of her extremities; like the peacock, she trusts to the gorgeousness of her plumage, and hopes that her skirts will cover all defects."—Godey's.

MOUSE-TRAPS.

Now is the time of year when there is the greatest demand for mouse-traps. As cold weather approaches the mice seek shelter in the houses of men, and men buy traps to catch them. There are various kinds of mouse-traps, including those that require no setting and that take mice alive, and those that require to be set and that kill the mice. In this last class are the familiar old-fashioned wood mouse-traps, some made square and some round, having holes in the sides through which the mouse thrusts its head to get at the bait fixed on a hook within. Traps of this kind are called chokers. Many kinds of mouse-traps are sold by the gross or dozen. The wood chokers, varying in size, are sold at wholesale at so much a dozen holes. Taking all the kinds together, there are made in this country and sold here millions of mouse-traps annually, and American mouse-traps in large numbers are exported to many foreign countries.—New York Sun.

HE WAS THE FIRST.

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IT FLOATS.

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Any person wishing a copy of this picture may mail to us 10 Ivory Soap Wrappers, on receipt of which, we will send a copy (without printing) on enamel plate paper, 14 x 17 inches, a suitable size for framing. THE PROCTER & GAMBLE CO., CINCINNATI, O.



Our Household.

A MEMORY.

How dear to this heart are the old-fashioned dresses.

When fond recollections present them to view!

In fancy I see the old wardrobes and presses
Which held the loved gowns that in girlhood I knew.

The wide-spreading mohair, the silk that hung by it:

The straw-colored satin with trimmings of brown;

The ruffled foulard, the pink organdie high it;
But oh for the pocket that hung in each gown!

The old-fashioned pocket, the obsolete pocket,

The praiseworthy pocket that hung in each gown.

That dear, roomy pocket I'd hail as a treasure,

Could I but behold it in gowns of to-day;
I'd find it the source of an exquisite pleasure,
But all my modistes sternly answer me "Nay!"

'Twould be so convenient when going out shopping,

'Twould hold my small purchases coming from town;

And always my purse or my kerchief I'm dropping—

Oh, me, for the pocket that hung in my gown!

The old-fashioned pocket, the obsolete pocket,

The praiseworthy pocket that hung in my gown.

A gown with a pocket! How fondly I'd guard it!

Each day ere I'd don it I'd brush it with care;

Not a full Paris costume could make me discard it.

Though trimmed with the laces an Empress might wear.

But I have no hope, for the fashion is banished;

The tear of regret will my fond visions drown;

As fancy reverts to the days that have vanished.

I sigh for the pocket that hung in my gown.

The old-fashioned pocket, the obsolete pocket,

The praiseworthy pocket that hung in my gown. —Life.

HOME TOPICS.

BANANAS.—Baked bananas are said to be an ideal food for nervous persons, especially for brain-workers; and many people who cannot eat them raw find them perfectly digestible when cooked. Lay the bananas on a

Banana fritters, made the same as apple fritters, make a delicious dish, though they are not quite as digestible as baked bananas. The bananas are sliced lengthwise, dipped into butter, and fried in the same manner as any other fritters. Dust them well with powdered sugar before serving.

SOME OLD RECIPES.—From the "Carolina Housewife," a cook-book compiled by a "Lady of Charleston," and published fifty years ago. I take the following recipes. The editor says the recipes "are selections from the family receipt books of friends, with a few translated from the French and German."

POTATO BISCUITS.—Boil and peel five or six potatoes, mash fine, and knead them with a little flour and salt; roll out, cut into cakes, and bake on a griddle. Split and butter while hot, and serve at once.

NORTH CAROLINA DABS.—One pint of corn-meal, two eggs, one dessert-spoonful of butter, one wine-glassful of milk. Scald the meal with boiling water, and while it is hot rub in the butter; stir in the milk, with a little salt, beat the eggs very light and stir them in. Drop the mixture from a spoon upon a tin sheet, and bake in a moderate oven.

PLUM PUDDING.—Six pounds of raisins, four pounds of currants, four and one half dozen eggs, two pounds of citron, one half ounce of mace, one pint of brandy, six pounds of suet, four loaves of baker's bread, two pounds of brown sugar, one tablespoonful of salt. The above ingredients will make twelve small puddings. Boil them in bags two hours. When done, hang them up, without opening, in a cool storeroom. When you wish to use one, boil it one hour and it is ready to serve. This pudding will keep perfectly all winter.

HOUSEHOLD ALLOWANCE.—To most women the asking for money is unpleasant. They dread it, putting it off from day to day, going without things they really need rather than ask for the money to purchase them. This is especially true where before marriage the wife had earned money for herself. At first her wants are few, as her wardrobe was well supplied with everything; but after a year or so she begins to need a good many things, and ought not to be forced to ask for money to supply these needs.

If every husband would begin immediately after marriage to pay his wife a stated sum every week or month for housekeeping, clothing, etc., he would increase her comfort and happiness tenfold, and his own also.

she has to expend, she will take pride and pleasure in spending it to the best advantage, and saving all that it is possible. Every woman who looks after her household matters, the clothing and food for the family, and takes care of her children, ought to have an equal voice in spending the income, instead of being obliged to ask for every cent she needs, and then having it given grudgingly, if indeed it is given. I know there are

wisely reasoned, it was necessary for earnest, practical women to know what was going on in the world and be conversant with affairs that were daily making history. The second hour was to be devoted to the discussion of questions closely allied to home and family life—housekeeping, particularly easier methods of doing work, "slighting one's work," household sanitation, care of children, sewing, health, culinary arts and recipes, anything and everything that would interest and help mothers and housekeepers.

And so it came about that the chance suggestion of a young housekeeper resulted in the establishment of a weekly club that continued and became of untold good in countless ways to the members and their families. May other neighborhoods do likewise.

CLARA S. EVERTS.

PILLOWS, ETC.

No, these days there are never too many pillows, and a comfortable lounge or cozy corner piled with them is just too luxuriously comfortable for anything. They can be of material that will launder well, but it is always best to take a day for doing them

up, not putting them in with the regular wash; they will look better.

The large one we illustrate is of pale green linen. The white feather scrolls are of satin-faced drilling appliqued on, and then worked with fine white linen thread in buttonhole-stitches around the edge. The flowers are worked in two shades of pink filo; so also is the latticework. It is finished with a large silk cord of green and white.

The other pillow is of silk patchwork. A square of one and one fourth inches is cut from soft gingham; upon this is plaited a silk piece two inches square. This forms a cone puff. The squares are all

many men who believe this, and give their wives a generous allowance, yet I hope the number of such will every year increase.

MAIDA McL.

THE MENDING CLUB.

"Of all the things I have ever had to do, I consider mending the most disagreeable," said pretty little Mrs. Blake, as she settled herself in a low willow rocker in her friend's sitting-room one bright afternoon: "so with your permission I'll darn these socks of Fred's, sew on some buttons and repair Helen's underwear as we talk. I thought possibly it would not seem so hard and tedious if my mind was pleasantly occupied."

"I wonder if that wouldn't make it seem easier," replied the hostess, Mrs. Lane. "You know the old saying, 'Misery loves company,' and I will get my mending, too, as I dislike it as heartily as any one possibly can."

Soon they were busily engaged, and as they chatted they scarcely noticed the unpleasant work.

"What! Mending?" exclaimed Mrs. Garland, another neighbor, as she was ushered in by Mrs. Lane. "I declare, I wish I had mine! I abominate it, and ran off from it this afternoon, knowing it ought to be done. Had I only thought I could have brought it along, and it would have been done almost before I knew it."

"I wonder if all housekeepers find mending such an unpleasant task?" said Mrs. Blake.

"I think they do," replied Mrs. Lane, "but I notice that the work has been more quickly finished this afternoon than usual, as I talked, and I have hardly noticed it."

"I have it," exclaimed Mrs. Garland. "Why not organize a mending club? My sister wrote not long since that the women in their town had an embroidery club, so why not a mending club as well?"

"I believe it would be a good plan," said Mrs. Lane, thoughtfully, and after a little conferring they agreed to talk to their friends about it, and to meet at Mrs. Lane's home at three o'clock on the next Friday afternoon. At the appointed time a dozen women gathered in Mrs. Lane's cozy sitting-room, each with her mending, and a merry afternoon was spent as garment after garment was deftly repaired; fingers seemingly vying with tongues as to which could accomplish the most. The tasks were completed in what seemed an incredibly short time as compared with that usually required when they worked at home and alone over the much-dreaded tasks, and it was unanimously decided that the mending club should become permanent.

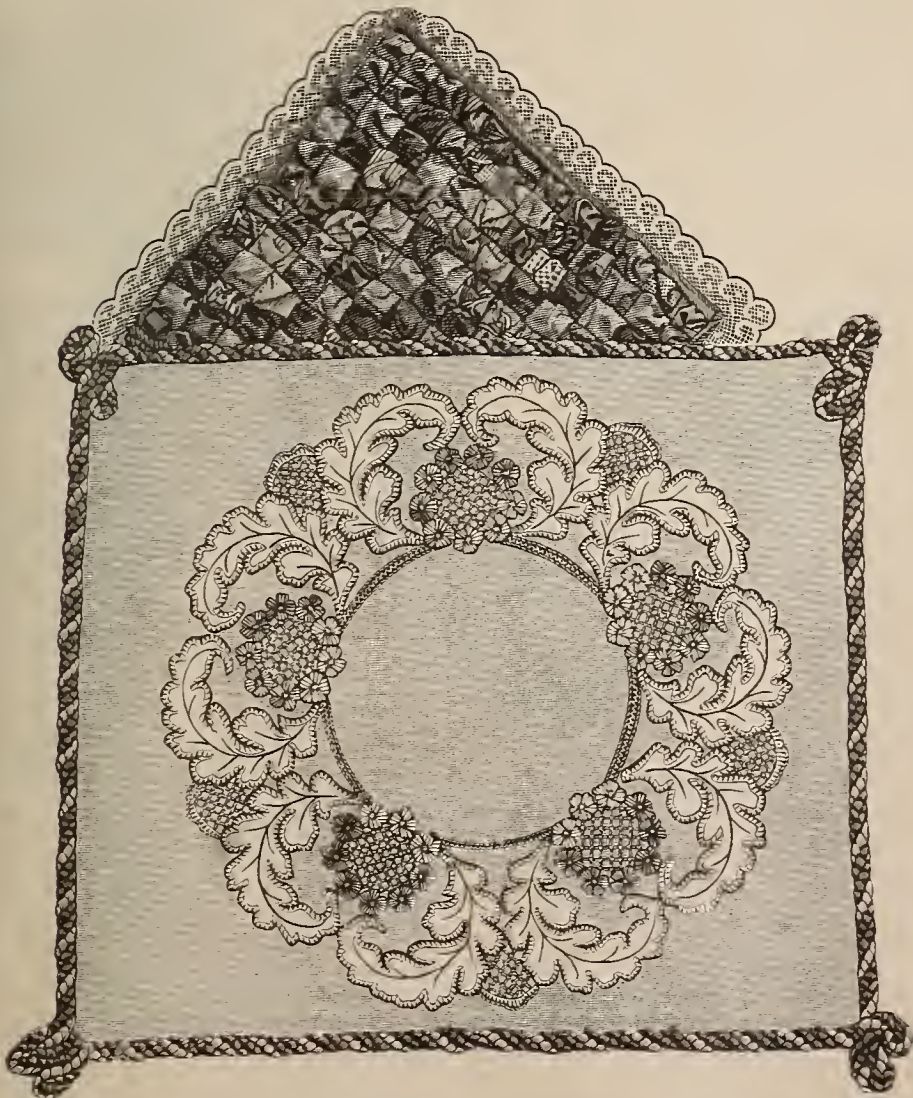
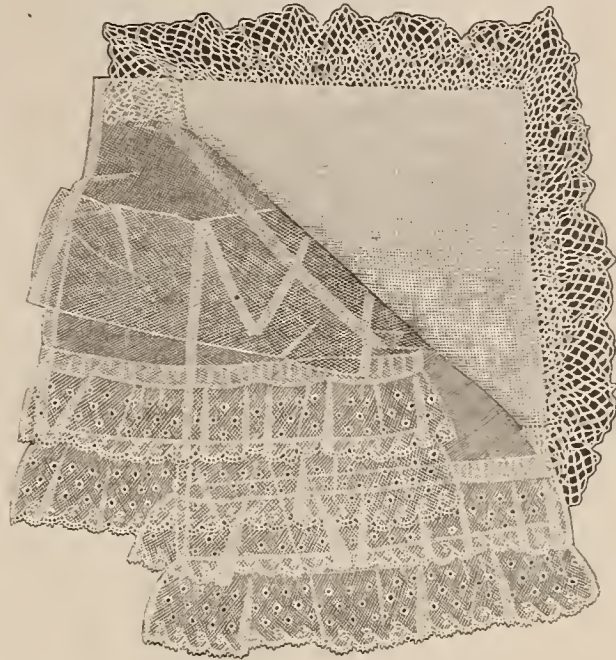
After two or three meetings it was suggested that they have some definite plan for conversation as well as work. After considerable discussion they agreed to hold the meetings from three to five o'clock on Friday afternoons, beginning and closing promptly. The first hour was to be devoted to the discussion of current events as gleaned from the newspapers; for, they

sewed in strips, hit or miss. Light and dark, then sewed together, letting the dark and light join. A double bias piece is sewed all around the edge, then the back is put on, and the edge finished with a white Torchon lace ruffle three inches wide, or a ruffle of silk, hemmed and brier-stitched. It is a nice way to preserve pieces of handsome silks, some even historic. If one has the time, a couch-cover pieced in the same way and lined with a silk dress one would like to keep will last for years if used carefully.

SHOULDER-SHAWL.—Get a square of cream henrietta of very fine quality, and put a narrow hem all around it. Into this hem crochet a knot-stitch border of cream-white Saxony wool, three-thread. Put the needle through the goods, draw the stitch out one inch, crochet a single crochet, again draw out the thread an inch, and fasten into the goods. In the next row around fasten into the knot, taking up two threads. If the knot is made loosely it is more effective. Seven rows are sufficient for a fluffy border. This can also be used as a fascinator to throw over the head for evening wear. As it is so customary now to remove hats at an evening entertainment, shoulder-shawls and fascinators will be much worn. The wool comes in pale pink and pale blue.

This would be a nice present for an invalid. Black might be used for an elderly woman.

BELLE KING.



pan, set them in a moderately hot oven, and let them bake fifteen or twenty minutes, or until they are quite soft and the skin bursts open. They may be eaten plain or with cream, one large banana, with bread and butter, making a very good meal.

Let husband and wife talk over the matter, make an estimate of the amount needed, and then let it be put into her hands promptly. If she is fitted to be a wife and mother, she is certainly capable of supplying and paying for the necessities of the home. If she knows just how much

Our Household.

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS.

PEOPLE in moderate circumstances would find it a wise policy, I think, to be more practical in the choosing of their gifts than they sometimes are. Then would gift-giving in the blessed Christmas-time become less a burden and more a pleasure to all concerned in it.

Perhaps this suggestion has slipped in because of a personally practical nature. But the nature has been intensified or strengthened by observation and from hearing many comforts and "speeches." To send a gift because one feels they "owe it" takes all the pleasure away from the donor; and to the one presented, if it were known, the gift would be valueless and its acceptance as wormwood. Give according to financial ability, and let the gift be accompanied with love and true friendship; and if the gift be practical, so much greater the value to the majority of the world.

And have you been, all the year through, adding stores to the Christmas-shelf that was among your last year's "resolves?" For if you have, by this time you are pretty well prepared with gifts for those you wish to remember, and much of worry as to "what the gift shall be" has been settled, and, better still, the gifts have been paid for.

One evening recently as I sat beside a down-town counter and looked through a boxful of handsome doilies and larger table-pieces, I found so many pretty things, at really trivial cost, that will make such pretty presents, and most ac-

ceptable ones besides. By purchasing many a reduction in price was made, and for \$1.50 a number of housewife heart-friends can be remembered. For almost every woman loves such things, while many of them deny themselves the pleasure of possession because of the sterner necessities that are always coming up to be paid for.

Until Christmas-time they will be snugly hidden away on the shelf, and many pretty handkerchiefs for "girlies" and for other friends will keep them pleasant company. Four silver rings will gladden four little hearts on Christmas eve or morning, and an "exchange" made them come ever so reasonable in price. Women are proverbially and unrestrictedly called "bargain-hunters," and one of our "noted divines" has taken us severely to task because of it. But that same "divine" knows little or nothing of the necessity that has driven women to bargain-hunting (some of them) if they were ever to have anything beyond the barest and absolute "must-haves." And every woman loves pretty things and nice things, and I think she is justified in securing from merchants just as much and as good for her money as she can secure honestly.

Do not buy at Christmas-time if you are looking for real bargains, for prices are always high then. Do your buying all through the summer, when merchants are glad to close out at greatly reduced prices

lieve me, for I know, it will be prized above silver and gold.

I know of a box or two of silver fruit-knives that have long been put away, awaiting Christmas-week distribution. They are beautiful and they are good, and will travel singly in several directions. They are gifts that no one need be ashamed to send out, though but one of them in a place. Their present owner regrets that she cannot send them one half dozen in a place. But "finance" runs low, though her heart throbs at high-tide with love and would-be generosity. Hours of work were given in exchange for the pretty silver knives—work that was the equivalent of cash. Christmas-time was in mind when the labor was given and time devoted, and "the heart was happy in its doing."

One of the extravagances for Christmas occasions was the purchase of a fruit-set of real china—pink, white and gold, transparent and beautiful, and "bought at a bargain" in midsummer, when its merchant owner was most anxious to be "turning his money over again," and when a certain housewife was anxious to be adding to her Christmas-shelf a gift for a "dearest friend." A deep, rather large bowl-shaped dish, exquisitely tinted, decorated and fashioned is for berries, while nine individual saucers complete the set. It answers to the description of either a berry-set or an ice-cream set, and the

deep-shallow dish makes a beautiful salad-bowl. Half the original price asked for it I bought it; and though it seems an extravagance, it is not extravagant to cater to fastidiousness of taste occasionally. And this was one of the occasions when a bit of extravagance was tolerated.

A very large and very handsome ice-wool shawl or fascinator in black will be a gift to a friend who has wanted one a long time. Such an article is entirely practical, and is such a handy thing when one wants to "run down town" in the evening, or over to a neighbor's at any time when it is too cold to wear a dress-hat, or even a hack-hat.

Busy fingers found time to make it at odd moments. Perhaps busy fingers elsewhere may find time to make articles of the kind yet before Christmas. Always busy fingers found time, too, to make a dainty night-robe of a delicate-tinted, ten-cent piece of outing-flannel, and there was a pair of pillow-slips of the same material. Such materials have become so commonly and so sensibly used for winter gowns and pillow-cases, and they look as well as feel so comfortable and warm when the ground is white with snow and everything drear with its winter scenery. For winter scenery is more often than otherwise much handsomer on canvas than in reality, if the whole truth be told.

LYNN LANGLOIS.

SOME CHRISTMAS HINTS.

Any of these articles are soon made, and these few hints may assist some one to finish out their list. While hooks, stationery, perfumes, gloves and handkerchiefs are always standard gifts, there are some to whom we wish to give only the work of our own hands.

PICTURE-FRAME.—This is a change from the linen ones. It is embroidered on very light silk, and is used the same as linen ones, always under glass.

BED-POCKET.—Fold a piece of pale green bengaline in three parts; turn one as shown on the front, and sew the other two together so they will make a deep pocket. This makes two pockets, which can be used for various purposes by an invalid. The edge is a ruffle of narrow ribbon. The pocket is hung on the head-board within easy reach, and can contain handkerchief, scissors, nail-cleaner and pencils.

TIES.—One and one fourth yards of fine-mesh wash-blondie is the material required. The width makes two ties. Hem the sides and ends, and put in a tuck the width of the lace used above the hem. Trim with Valenciennes lace two inches wide, put on slightly folded.

HANDKERCHIEF.—The square can be of linen lawn or India linen. Turn and hem very narrow, and crochet an edge in knot-stitch, following the directions given for the shoulder-shawl in this number, only using in this case No. 80 thread and a very fine crochet-needle.

REX.

A FEW GOOD THINGS TO EAT.

APPLE SALAD.—Use tart green apples cut into dice; cut one fourth as much celery into squares. Mix all carefully, and pour over it mayonnaise dressing.

FRIED POTATOES.—These two ways are excellent: Slice them the long way, dip into egg and then into bread-crumbs, and fry in deep lard. Or chop cold boiled potatoes, season well with salt and pepper, put into a skillet with very hot fat, and cover. Stir frequently, then let a brown crust form on the bottom, lift this, and stir again. Put in a cupful of milk, cover tightly until the milk is hot, then serve immediately.

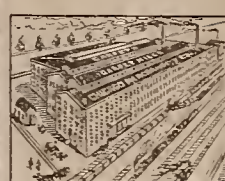
VEAL LOAF, WITH TOMATO SAUCE.—One pound of veal chopped fine, three Boston crackers rolled fine and sifted, salt and pepper, one egg well beaten. Work until thoroughly mixed, form into a loaf with the hands; butter a tin, place the loaf in it, rub a little butter on top, pour over this a cupful of tomato catsup. Bake one hour, basting often. Serve cold with water-cresses.

SCRAPPLE.—Take the amount of meat you wish to use, two pounds of beef and one and one half pounds of fresh pork. Cook in plenty of water till tender; remove the meat, stir corn-meal into the liquor as you would make mush. Cook until done. Chop the meat very fine; season with salt, pepper and a little sage; stir this into the mush, and turn out into dishes to cool. Fry as you do mush, for breakfast. In cold weather this will keep for a week or more. Watch it that it does not mold.

E. B. R.

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A FEW GOOD CAKE RECIPES.

PYRAMID POUND-CAKE.—One pound of sugar, one pound of butter, one pound of flour, ten eggs. Beat the yolks and whites well, separately. Cream the sugar and butter, then add the yolks, next the flour and the whites alternately; beat all thoroughly. Bake in a dripping-pan, the batter to be about one inch in thickness. Cut when cold into pieces three and one half inches long by two inches wide, and frost the top and sides. Form on the cake-stand in a pyramid before icing is quite dry, by laying first in a circle five pieces with some space between them; over the spaces between these lay five other pieces, gradually drawing in the column and crowning the top with a bouquet of flowers. In shaping it, leave less space between the five foundation pieces. Half of the ingredients of this recipe makes a good-sized cake. The cake is an attractive ornament for the table, as well as a dainty morsel for the palate.

GOOD CHEAP FRUIT-CAKE.—One cupful of sugar, one half cupful of molasses, a scant cupful of butter, one cupful of sour milk, one half teaspoonful of soda, two eggs, one cupful each of raisins and currants, some finely sliced candied citron, one teaspoonful each of cloves, allspice, ginger and cinnamon. Add flour enough to make a rather stiff batter.

CREAM CAKE OR PIE.—This is an excellent dessert eat as a pie, or it may be served as a cake for tea. For the crust use three eggs, one cupful of sugar, one of flour, one third of a teaspoonful of soda and one teaspoonful of cream of tartar. Beat the whites and yolks well separately, stir all together as quickly as possible, and bake in two pans (if rather small; if large use only one), the batter to be three quarters of an inch thick. For the cream use two and one half cupfuls of sweet milk, four even tablespoonfuls of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of flour and one egg. Boil this a few moments until it has thickened, and flavor with vanilla or lemon. When the crust is cold, split it and put the custard between. This cake is much improved with a boiled icing.

MRS. J. R. MACKINTOSH.

EVENING WAIST.

If one has a good black dress it is always the foundation for an evening toilet. Make a waist of black satin, either with short sleeves, or elbow sleeves. Trim the body with a fichu of chiffon or mousseline-de-soie ruffles, the material doubled. It is



very dressy and effective. The material comes in all colors, already accordeon-plaited, to be used for these purposes. L.

GOING BEYOND ONE'S MEANS.

The temptation is great and the opportunities are many for going beyond one's means. This is true of any time of the year, but more particularly so of the holiday season, the season of gifts given and gifts received.

In the shopping district beautifully decorated windows charm the eyes, and the counters in the various stores are scarcely less attractive. How much Mary would like this work-box, how delighted little Fred would be with those steam-cars, and Mrs. Gray would be so pleased with a set of such exquisite doilies!

It is near Christmas, and the spirit of the time is in your heart. You must buy something for every one, and though their number is legion, it is still in the teens, and makes quite a formidable list when one name after another is written in one long, narrow column. Of course, you realize that you have just so much to spend—a certain amount which you can afford to spend for gifts.

"The work-box is too expensive," you say, for you have already decided how much you can pay for Mary's gift, and you turn partly away. The crowd jostles you back, and your eyes again wander to the daintily made box. You cannot resist the temptation; it is too great for your common sense. The money is paid, the box is yours, and you hasten away with a feeling of satisfaction, which is apt to be momentary only. The thought almost immediately occurs to you that your purchase of this gift will necessitate more economy in the selection of the other presents which must be bought, and the knowledge that Mary would have been just as well pleased with something less expensive does not tend to better matters in your own mind.

The temptation that now springs up is to take this little extravagance (this difference between what you intended to pay



and what you actually paid for Mary's gift) from your household money, and you are very liable to allow the temptation to again overrule your sense of prudence.

It requires not a little force of will to keep from dipping too deeply into the sea of beautiful gifts. The only safe way, or rather I should say the most sensible way, is first to decide what you can afford to spend for Christmas. After this your list of names must be made out and an approximate sum placed by each name. So far everything is well. From this time, however, dates your struggle. You must keep within these limits, or you will find, when your gifts have all been purchased, that a little extra for this and a little extra for that gift has amounted to a considerable sum, and that after all your planning you have gone much beyond your original intention and desire.

If your income is large, you will have allowed, in the first place, much; if your income is small, you will have allowed in proportion, little. Hence, the result is the same if you exceed your limit—you will have to infringe on the money set aside for something or somebody else.

A friend said—and my own experience coincides—that almost invariably one will spend at least one third again as much as originally planned; this being because of the little extras in price (apparently trifling in themselves) which have been paid above the set sum for each individual gift. Probably your experience will agree with this, in which case there will be extra need for prudence and economy in your shopping.

If you have allowed yourself originally all that you can afford to spend, and during your shopping tours have been prudent enough to keep within this limit, you will experience a greater sense of satisfaction in your Christmas thoughts and after-thoughts than if you find yourself obliged after the holidays are over to devote your time and energies to practising tedious and aggravating economies in the household or toilet.

EMMA LOUISE HAUCK ROWE.

INEXPENSIVE CANDIES.

Santa Claus deals out candy very sparingly to some children. He either thinks it hurtful or his finances get low before he makes the rounds. The following recipes can meet with his approval in either case:

CANDIED HICKORY-NUTS.—Pick out one quart of hickory-nut meats, and be careful not to let tiny pieces of shucks fall in. Beat the whites of two eggs, and add one half cupful of fine granulated sugar; pour this frosting over the nuts, mix carefully, and spread on a platter; scatter over dry sugar, and stir them until the meats do

not stick together, then set in a cool place to dry.

MAPLE-SUGAR TAFFY.—Let maple molasses boil until it will stiffen when dropped into cold water; then take from the stove and set the dish or kettle where it will cool as rapidly as possible. Do not stir the syrup until it has become quite a thick wax, and then with a paddle or stout spoon stir until white and hard. An addition of hickory-nut meats to the wax before stirring greatly improves it for some people. The success in nice taffy lies in preventing it becoming grainy. To accomplish this do not stir the molasses any until it is sufficiently boiled and then cooled. If an inch in depth around the top of the pan is buttered the syrup will not boil over.

CREAM CANDIES.—Beat together the white of one egg and two tablespoonfuls of sweet cream; then add confectioners' sugar until the batter is thick enough to work with the hand. Rub sugar over the palms of the hands, then roll out little balls of the candy the size of marbles, flatten, and press a half walnut, hickory-nut or almond meat into the top; place on buttered paper to dry. One must work

rapidly, as the paste dries out quickly, and cannot then be made into such nice shape as when moist. GYPSY.

THE CLOCK'S FOURTH NUMERAL.

The origin of the four I's that occur on the dial of clocks, instead of the usual IV., is not as well known as many other historical curiosities of less interest.

Charles V. of France was one of those arrogant and intensely stubborn characters so ably acted by Hamlet in casual conversations with Polonius the Cautious, and Osric the Servile, to whom their little wills partake of solemn law, and whose pet whims are more important than all else in the world. When Henry Vick carried to this haughty monarch the first accurate clock that had been made, Charles declared that the IV. was wrong and should be changed to IIII. "You are wrong, your majesty," returned Vick. Whereat the king thundered out, "Wrong, say you? Know that I am never wrong. Off with you and correct the mistake!" Since then the four I's have remained as the mark of the fourth hour.

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The actual social experiences of a prominent Cabinet member's wife. For this reason the authorship will be withheld. It is, without question, the most fascinating recital of politics, love, and the intrigues of high social and official life ever given publicity.

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AND LADIES' 10 KARAT GOLD PLATE. CUT THIS OUT and send it to us with your name and address and we will send you this beautiful gold finished watch, by express for examination. You examine it at the express office and if you think it a bargain pay our sample price \$3.50 and express charges and it is yours. It is magnificently engraved and equal in appearance to a genuine Solid Gold watch. A guaranteed beautiful gold plate chain and charm sent free with every watch. Write today; this may not appear again; mention whether you want gent's or ladies' size.

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Manufactured with SORE EYES USE DR. ISAAC THOMPSON'S EYE WATER

Our Sunday Afternoon.

AS SHE USED TO BE.

I wonder if my mother knew
The cares that surge around me,
The wildness I'm passing thro',
The darkness that confounds me—
Ah! if she knew, would she take my hand
And lead me to a pleasanter land?

If she knew the path on which I tread
Was filled with thorns to pierce the feet;
If she saw the prints where the wounds had bled.

Would she bind them up with an ointment sweet?

Ah! if she knew I was weary and worn,
Would she bid me rest on her breast till morn?

I am too far away; she never can know
My trials and sorrows that come and go;
And better for her that she rests to-night
With the thought that her child is walking upright.

Much better for her that she does not see
In my face all the pain and the misery.

Much better for her she does not know
I am waiting to hear her whisper low—
Waiting to feel the soothing caress—
A touch of her hand, her hair and her dress.
Oh, so much better for her! but what comfort to me

To feel that I had her sympathy,
And I fear I wish that she really knew,
And would sooth my grief as she used to do.
—Lottie S. McKey, in Chicago Inter-Ocean.

THE RIGHT KIND OF SENSATION.

SOME people accuse me of being too sensational," said Mr. Moody, as he began one of his regular Cooper Union discourses, and a laugh went around the hall. "Well, I like that. I wish I could be a hundred times more so. I am not afraid of sensations. I want to stir up one. The newspapers are looking for sensations all the time. They keep an army of bright, active men on watch all the time for them. I am ashamed of those ministers who talk against sensational preachers and preaching. Was there ever a country in which there was such a stir aroused as was occasioned by the preaching of John the Baptist? Entire cities went out into the wilderness to hear him. He created a sensation, and he called his hearers some very uncomplimentary names.

"Jesus himself created a sensation, and people said he had a devil. I would to God we had a sensation, a greater one than this land ever saw. We want something out of the ordinary, something out of the regular order. You will always find order in a graveyard. Go to a graveyard and you will find every man and woman resting there quiet. They are keeping just the same order they did when they were placed there, but I tell you there will be a sensation and a shaking up when the resurrection comes.

"God wants to redeem and deliver men from their sins. There is not a besetting sin from which he cannot redeem us. A man told me that he had been in perdition three days because he had trouble with his wife. When a man has trouble with his wife he is generally at fault, and when a woman has trouble with her husband she is generally at fault.

"I see a man down there who is asleep. That's right, wake him up. You don't know what you may do when you wake a man up. He may never go to sleep again. I was in the gallery of a church one night and fell asleep. I don't know whether or not I snored, but a man sitting next to me dug his elbow into my side, and I woke up. I looked at the minister and it seemed to me he was preaching right at me. I got provoked; I turned my collar up about my neck and hurried out of the church, but the shaft that minister sent had been guided by the Holy Spirit and struck home, and I have been pretty well awake ever since. I would like to know the man who woke me up. I would like to send him a nice letter."—Evangelical Messenger.

NO TIME FOR DUTIES.

Nothing is more absurd than the plea of those men and women who insist that they have no time for the discharge of their duties. They have no time, forsooth, to read, to think, to pray; no time to spend in social intercourse with their friends, in quiet meditation with themselves or in pleasant conversation with their children. With a persistency

that knows no abatement they drudge away, in the spirit of the veriest slave, at tasks that wear out their nerves, narrow their minds and deaden their hearts. And for what purpose? Simply to get a few dollars. In some cases the endless "grind" develops a habit which is as imperious as a natural law.

We are entering no protest against hard and steady work. Indolence is a great sin. The primal law that we shall eat our bread in the sweat of our brow has not been repealed. There are tasks for us all—tasks that we cannot shirk or shun without deliberate unfaithfulness. But unless we voluntarily elect to dwarf our manhood by cutting ourselves off from the best things we shall be careful to reserve some portions of our time for rational and religious uses. The highest claims are also the first claims. They hold a prior lien on us. Until we have given them due attention we have really no time for anything else. It is a pitiful sight when a creature made in the image of God compares the relative value of things and allows those which are of less importance to usurp the highest place in his mind.—Christian Advocate.

YOUNG MEN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.

A publication representing the Y. M. C. A. in an eastern trade-center says: There are large numbers of young men out of employment at the present time, and it is trying for us not to be able to place the many who apply to us. When scores of young men are ready to step into the first place that offers, a very little thing may turn the scale for or against a man. The following may be suggestive:

1. Expect to find work every day.
2. Never get discouraged.
3. Don't go from city to city.
4. Spend eight hours a day looking for work. If you had a position you would be expected to work that many hours.
5. Be in earnest.
6. Remove your hat when entering the office.
7. Be neat and clean in your personal appearance.
8. Don't have the fumes of tobacco on your breath and clothes.
9. Have nothing to do with intoxicating liquors of any kind.
10. Impress the gentlemen on whom you call that you must have something to do.
11. When you get a position stick to it. Don't leave it unless you are sure of bettering yourself.
12. If you desire to advance, make your employer's interest your interest.
13. Say but little and do a good deal.
14. Be prompt, and don't watch the clock for closing-time.
15. Keep yourself thoroughly posted.

THOMAS JEFFERSON'S TEN RULES.

1. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.
2. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.
3. Never spend your money before you have it.
4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap; it will be dear to you.
5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst and cold.
6. We never repent of having eaten too little.
7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.
8. How much pain the evils that never happened have cost us.
9. Take things always by their smooth handle.
10. When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, a hundred.

MAKE SURE YOUR HEART IS RIGHT.

I will not quarrel with you about opinions. Only see that your heart is right towards God, that you know and love the Lord Jesus Christ, that you love your neighbor and walk as your Master walked, and I desire no more. I am sick of opinions. I am weary to hear them. Give me solid and substantial religion; give me a humble, gentle lover of God and man, a man full of mercy and good fruits, a man laying out himself in the work of faith, the patience of hope, the labor of love. Let my soul be with these Christians, whosoever they are and whatsoever opinion they are of. Whosoever thus doeth the will of my Father in heaven, the same is my brother and sister.—John Wesley.

NERVOUS PROSTRATION.

A New Jersey Woman Expresses Her Gratitude to Mrs. Pinkham for Relief.

"Will you kindly allow me," writes Miss Mary E. Saidt to Mrs. Pinkham, "the pleasure of expressing my gratitude for the wonderful relief I have experienced by taking your Compound? I suffered for a long time with nervous



prostration and general debility, caused by falling of the womb. It seemed as though my back would never stop aching. I could not sleep. I had dull headaches. I was weary all the time, and life was a burden to me. I sought the seashore for relief, but all in vain. On my return I resolved to give your medicine a trial. I took two bottles and was cured. I can cheerfully state, if more ladies would only give your medicine a fair trial they would bless the day they saw the advertisement, and there would be happier homes. I mean to do all I can for you in the future. I have you alone to thank for my recovery, for which I am very grateful." —Miss MARY E. SAIDT, Jobstown, N. J.

THE RUSH TO ALASKA

IN THE SPRING WILL BE TREMENDOUS.

The most profitable business will be in Transportation and Merchandising and in Furnishing Food and Supplies to the Multitude of Gold Seekers—in short, a general Trading, Mercantile and Steamship business. It was so in '49—it will be so in '98.

THE ALASKA TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Incorporated Capital, **\$5,000,000** non-assessable.

To meet this demand, will own and operate its

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specially adapted for passenger business—carrying to that country an immense amount of Supplies and Equipment for the miners, as well as furnishing them Transportation for themselves and their goods, and establishing TRADING STATIONS at different points. An opportunity is offered any person, be they of small or large means, to buy shares of stock in this company and participate in the

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D. G. EDWARDS, Pass. Traffic Mgr. N. H. & D. R. R., Cincinnati.

FRANK A. HECHT, of Chas. Kaestner & Co., Chicago.

CHAS. H. ROCKWELL, Traffic Mgr. C. I. & L. R. R. (Monon Route), Chicago.

W. C. RINEARSON, Gen'l Pass. Agt. C. N. O. & T. P. R. R., Cincinnati, O.

B. W. GRIFFITH, Pres. First Nat'l Bank, Vicksburg, Miss.

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Smiles.

THIS OLD COUNTRY.

Good times or had times, we're with this country still;
With her on the mountain-top or slidin' down the hill!
Don't care how corn's a-sellin', if cotton's high or low;
This old country, brethren, is the best one that we know!

Good times or had times, we're with this country still;
Every time we feel her shake we have a friendly chill!
Don't care how things is goin', nor how the tempests blow,
This here old country, brethren, is the best one that we know!

Good times or had times, we're with this country still;
With her when we sow the grain an' when we go to mill.
Don't care what's in the future; we'll whistle as we go,
For this old country, brethren, is the best one that we know!

—Atlanta Constitution.

ON A POSTER BLUE.

Said a Beardsley boy to a Bradley girl,
Whom he met on a poster blue;
"I haven't an idea who I am,
And who the deuce are you."

Said the Bradley girl to the Beardsley boy:
"I'll tell you what I think;
I came into being one night last week
When a cat tipped over the ink."
—Robert B. Peattie, in the Clack Book.

THE TURNING OF THE WORM.

THE driver of the ice-wagon was surprised to see the occupant of the house sitting on the front door-step as he drove up. As soon as the wagon stopped the householder was at the curbstone with his eyes on the scales. The iceman paid no attention to him, but, after weighing a small chunk, started toward the house with it.

"Hold on," said the customer, "I'll take that in."

"You needn't bother."

"But I know just where to put it."

"All right. But you want to be quick, for it's a warm day, and we'll have to deliver the stuff in sponges if we let it stay out in the sun much longer."

The customer seized the tongs and disappeared. In a little while he came out of the house, and seating himself on the door-step began to whistle.

"Well! well!" shouted the iceman, "I can't stay here till next winter!"

"Are you waiting for anything?" inquired the customer, blandly.

"Of course I'm waiting for something. I want my tongs."

"What tongs?"

"The tongs you just used to carry the ice in."

"Oh! I'm sorry, but I don't care to lend them."

"Well, whose tongs do you think they are?"

"Mine."

"Maybe you've gone down town unbeknown to anybody and bought out the ice company with all its furniture," was the sarcastic rejoinder.

"No. But I bought those tongs. I pay you so much a pound for your commodity, don't I?"

"Yes."

"Well, I noticed that the tongs were weighed in with the rest, and I'm not going to pay for tongs at so much a pound and then not get them. I have been taking ice from you for the last three months, and that makes at least ninety pairs of tongs still due me. If you have any proposition ready, to trade off ice for tongs, I'm willing to listen to it."—Washington Star.

WOMEN AS WELL AS MEN CAN MAKE MONEY.

I have heard several people complaining of hard times, but I can't understand it, as I have been doing so nicely. About six months ago I took the agency for W. H. Baird & Co., Station A, Pittsburg, Pa., to sell their "Lightning Butter Maker" in this country. I have just done splendid with it, making \$38 a week selling them. It is a simple arrangement and is worked very easy. You fasten it onto the kitchen table and the butter is made in three minutes. The color is nice and yellow, and then you can make much more than by the old style. All farmers recognize the advantages of the new invention and immediately order one after seeing it work. Agents can make lots of money selling them by just showing them to the farmers' wives. They sell at a reasonable price, and any one can make as much money as I do, and not have to work hard either. Write for particulars to the above company, and they will give you a start in business.

A WOMAN AGENT.

AN EFFECTUAL REMEDY.

His firmly set lips and the square cut of his side whiskers showed at a glance that he was accustomed to surmount obstacles instead of yielding to them.

"We were a day late in getting that piece of work out," he remarked to the superintendent of his business.

"Yes; it was one of those unfortunate things that couldn't very well be avoided."

"What was the matter?"

"You will remember that the order reached us on Friday morning. It was a pretty big job and the foreman hated like everything to begin it on Friday. The men all looked kind of glum when we talked about taking it up on that day, and, to tell you the truth, I didn't like to begin it on Friday myself."

"What's wrong with Friday?"

"Nothing. Only you know the old superstition about its being an unlucky day. Of course, everybody feels a little ashamed of it, but just the same everybody recognizes it and is more or less afraid of it."

"And you mean to tell me that this superstition has saturated these shops so that we're liable to be delayed on a contract if Friday happens to interfere?"

"I'm afraid that is the case."

"Well, I'll fix that."

"It will be hard to do."

"No, it won't. It will be the easiest thing imaginable. You notify the bookkeeper and the cashier that hereafter, instead of paying off on Saturday, all employees will get their money on Friday. That'll arrange things so that instead of regarding Friday as unlucky, they'll spend the other six days wishing for it to come around."—Detroit Free Press.

HOW SHE KNEW.

A girl from town was staying with some country cousins who live at a farm. On the night of her arrival she finds, to her mortification, that she is ignorant of all sorts of things connected with farm life, which to her country cousins are matters of every-day knowledge. She fancies they seem amused at her ignorance.

At breakfast the following morning she sees on the table a dish of fine honey, whereupon she thinks she has found an opportunity of retrieving her humiliating experience of the night before, and of showing her country cousins that she knows something of country life after all. So, looking at the dish of honey, she says, carelessly:

"Ah, I see you keep a bee."—Pearson's Weekly.

HE WAS INDULGENT.

Grimm—"Women are such selfish creatures! There was an odd chop at breakfast, and my wife insisted upon my eating it. It was all because she wanted to revel in the satisfaction of self-denial! A case of pure selfishness."

Flinn—"And what did you do?"

Grimm—"Oh, I let her have her way and I ate the chop. There are few husbands so indulgent as I am."—Boston Transcript.

EASILY IDENTIFIED.

Cohenstein (sorrowfully)—"Rebecca, I read in dis haper dot our Uncle Levi was returning home from Alaska mid a valise full of goldt, undt dot ship vent down mit all on board."

Mrs. Cohenstein—"Vell, you had better telegraph dot eef a pody gomes ashore mit a valise in hees handt dot it is your uncle. He would nefer let go his holdt on dot grip."—Puck.

ENOUGH.

Mama and Davie had been to church, and the former had put a cent into the contribution-box, which had not escaped the boy's observation. On the way home she found fault with the sermon.

"Well, mama," said Davie, in a lofty way, "you ean't expect much for a penny."—Judge.

SO THEY HAVE.

The teacher was asking questions—teachers are quite apt to ask questions and they sometimes receive curious answers. This question was as follows:

"Now, pupils, how many months have 28 days?"

"All of them, teacher," observed the boy on the front seat.—Utica Observer.

DRUNKENNESS IS A DISEASE.

Will send free Book of Particulars how to cure "Drunkenness or the Liquor Habit" with or without the knowledge of the patient. Address Dr. J. W. Haines, No. 439 Race Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROPRIATE.

Inquiring tourist—"How does that man lounging over there happen to be called 'Stationary Jim'?"

Alkali Ike—"Bercuz be is too infernally lazy to git out of his own way."

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without surgery. Testimony furnished of many reliable persons cured. Book of information, free. Address, Dr. C. WEBER, Cincinnati, Ohio.

FOR 30 DAYS YOU CAN TRY IT FOR 25 CENTS.

Their Marvelous
CURE BY

5 DROPS

[TRADE MARK.]

I could not move without help, and the doctors made fun of me for sending to you for medicine. They said I was past medicine help, but I have been for three months enjoying as good health as ever I did in my life. Enclosed herewith find one dollar for which please send me another bottle of "5 DROPS," for I know of lots of people that suffer with Rheumatism, and I wish to try this on the worst of them, and perhaps they will believe me.

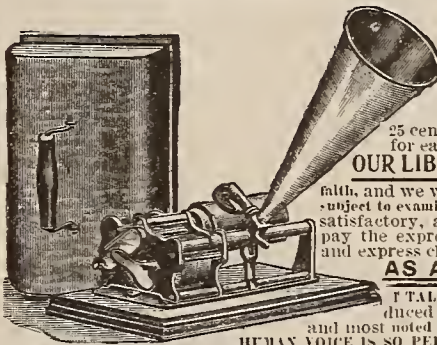
Gentlemen:—I write to let you know that your medicine has in my case proven all you claim for it, and more, for it did for me what no other medicine had done before. I have had Asthma for forty-two years and Hay Fever for fifteen years. I do not know how long I suffered with Catarrh, but I think about twenty years. Towards the last of July I began taking "5 DROPS." When I had used it about a week the Asthma began to leave me and in two weeks it was gone. I am sure "5 DROPS" through the help of God did cure me, for I took no other medicine in that time. I have not had the Hay Fever since I commenced taking the "5 DROPS," and I am in good hopes that with the help of the Inhaler and Special Preparation, it will also cure my Catarrh.

As a positive cure for Rheumatism, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Dyspepsia, Backache, Asthma, Hay Fever, Catarrh, Sleeplessness, Nervousness, Nervous and Neuralgic Headaches, Heart Weakness, Toothache, Earache, Croup, Swelling, La Grippe, Malaria, Creeping Numbness, etc., etc.,

"FIVE DROPS" HAS NEVER BEEN EQUALLED.

"FIVE DROPS" taken but once a day is a dose of this great remedy, and to enable all sufferers to make a trial of its wonderful curative properties we will send out during the next thirty days, 100,000 sample bottles, 25c. each, prepaid by mail. Even a sample bottle will convince you of its merit. Best and cheapest medicine on earth. Large bottles (300 doses) \$1.00, for 30 days 3 bottles for \$2.50. Not sold by druggists, only by us and our agents. Agents wanted in new territory. Write us to-day.

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\$10.00 EDISON GRAPHOPHONE \$10.00
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IT TALKS, IT LAUGHS. Its music, both instrumental and vocal, is reproduced with all the beautiful expressions and melody, as only the best and most noted hands, orchestras and singers can render them. ITS IMITATION OF THE HUMAN VOICE IS SO PERFECT as to deceive almost any one. **YOU CAN PLAY, SING OR TALK** to the Graphophone and it will record and reproduce the same as many times as desired. **IN YOUR OWN HOME** you can hear with the most life-like expression such noted speakers as McKinley, Bryan, Gladstone, DePew and others; such noted bands as Sousa's, Gilmore's, U. S. Marine and others; such noted singers as Silas Leechman, Dan W. Quinn, Geo. J. Garkin and others; in fact, everything of interest as heard in large cities in Europe and America can be reproduced on the GRAPHOPHONE.

DESCRIPTION OUR NEW GEM GRAPHOPHONE is well made in every respect, has a strong spring motor, with cut gears and pinions, governor and tension screw for regulating the speed, AND RUNS TWO PAGES WITH ONE WINDING, has the latest extra loud aluminum reproducer, new style long bearing record mandrel, is lighter and more portable than the old styles, is equipped with all the latest improvements, and everything considered it is unequalled by anything in the line of Talking Machines. There is no limit to the number of pieces that it will play or reproduce, and each piece can be played, each speech or song reproduced as often as desired.

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2 Hearing Tubes, Concert Horn, 24 Best Records, assorted selection of Music, Songs and Speeches, 100 Large Size (12x18) Posters for advertising graphophone exhibitions and 200 Admission Tickets. **OUR GRAPHOPHONE CATALOGUE IS FREE** and includes GRAPHOPHONES, ATTACHMENTS and a very large list of **MUSICAL AND TALKING RECORDS.** **SEND FOR IT.**

AS TO OUR RELIABILITY WE REFER YOU TO THE Metropolitan National Bank, National Bank of 1 Republic, National Bank of Illinois, or any old resident of Chicago. If you have friends in Chicago write them to come and examine our Graphophone. Address,

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (INC.), CHEAPEST SUPPLY HOUSE ON EARTH, Cor. Fulton, Desplaines and Wayne Sts., CHICAGO, ILL.

NO-TO BAC

MADE A MAN OF ME.

That's what 400,000 former Tobacco USERS say about NO-TO-BAC, the wonderful original guaranteed tobacco habit cure. NO-TO-BAC is the greatest NERVE BUILDER known, for man and woman alike, and brings new blissful life to many who have lost all hope for happiness. It restores vitality, no matter what causes have destroyed it.

Buy NO-TO-BAC under your own DRUGGIST'S GUARANTEES. Price, 50c or \$1 a box; three \$1 boxes, \$2.50. Absolutely guaranteed to cure any case.

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MAKES WEAK MEN STRONG.

STERLING REMEDY CO., Chicago, Montreal, Can., or New York. 218n

RHEUMATISM

Permanently cured by using DR. WHITEHALL'S RHEUMATIC CURE. The surest and the best. Sample sent free on mention of this publication. THE DR. WHITEHALL MEGRIMINE CO., South Bend Indiana.

\$6 to \$1000 for distributing CIRCULARS. Enclose 4c. Excursion Adv. Co., 213 W. 125 St., N. Y. City.

YOU CAN make money distributing Circulars and Samples. Salary and expenses to travel. No carrying. Enclose 2c. stamp. ADVERTISERS' BUREAU, No. 113 W. 31st St., New York.

LARGE CIGAR Firm wants permanent Agents everywhere \$15 per WEEK TO BEGINNERS. EXPENSES ADVANCED. SAMPLES FREE. ADDRESS with stamp, P. BOX 1210, CHICAGO.

SPECTACLES at wholesale. Send for catalog. Agents wanted. COULTER OPTICAL CO., Chicago, Ill.

RUBBER STAMPS Best made. Immense Catalogue Free to agents. THE G. A. HARPER MFG. CO., (Cleveland, O.)

SALESMEN WANTED to sell to dealers. \$100 monthly and expenses. Experience unnecessary. Enclose stamp. Acme Cigar Co., Chicago.

\$8 PER 100 paid for your neighbors names and addresses. Send 10c. for book and instructions. Agents Supply Co., 134 L Van Buren, Chicago, Ill.

\$10-\$50 PER DAY for AGENTS who will work a few hours a day or evening. No experience required. You may make a fortune in a year. Send 10c. for Agents' Adviser & Outline to Wealth. Ogden & Co., 185 Clark St., Chicago.

PLAYS and Other Entertainment Books. Send for 120-page catalogue free. DRAMATIC PUBLISHING CO., CHICAGO.

HOW to make money with a Magic Lantern or Stereopticon is explained in 250-page catalogue describing apparatus & Views free. McALLISTER, Mfg. Optician, 49 Nassau St., N. Y.

CARDS FOR 1898. 50 Sample Styles AND LIST OF 70 Premium Articles FREE. HAVESFIELD PUBLISHING CO., CADIZ, OHIO

987 Tricks, Games, Puzzles, Laughing Camera, Premium Articles ETC., AND AGENTS' CATALOGUE AND OUTFIT, ALL 2 CENT STAMP. OHIO CARD CO., CADIZ, OHIO.

700 Sample Styles of Silk Fringe Cards, Hidden Name Cards, Love Cards, Scrap Pictures, Games, Puzzles, Album Verses, The Star Puzzle, The 13 Puzzle, and Agents Sample Album of our latest Cards. Send a two cent stamp for postage. Banner Card Co., CADIZ, OHIO.

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650 NEW STYLE CARDS, &c. FOR 1898 100 Rich and Racy Jokes, 15 Versions of Love, Language of Flowers and Precious Stones, Standard Bean Catcher, and how to make \$10. a day at home, ALL FOR 2 CENTS. Address, CROWN CARD CO., Box 24, CADIZ, OHIO.

RUBBER GOODS and Mail Order Supplies. Quick sales; big profits to Agents. Catalogue free. Mrs. M. O. Carpenter, "L," 136 Van Buren St., Chicago, Ills.

\$153 A WEEK was made by one Agent selling my Magnetic Belts, Brushes, Insoles, Rheumatic Rings, Medicines. Samples free. Write DR. BADGMAN, New York.

Agents Big Success. GUARANTEED. Everything new. Supplies Free. Season is here, so act quick. FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, O.

IMPROVED LAMP CHIMNEY BRUSH 14 inches long. Cleans in, fills space, polishes bright. Sample 10c. 1 doz. 60c. postpaid. 3 doz. \$1.12 doz. \$3.00, exp. Agents make big pay. Ill. Call'g Novelties, Tricks, Wigs & Plays free. C. M. BARNES, Lockport, N. Y.

Our Miscellany.

SKUNK-FARMING FAILS.

Pierre Souci, the only man in Maine who ever attempted skunk-farming on a large scale, offers his place, stock and fixtures for sale at a bargain, and says he is going to the gold-fields of Alaska, where he hopes to make money more rapidly than by skinning skunks and frying out their oil. Though Souci had plenty of minuows and whitefish to feed to his pets, and could catch all the rabbits he wanted with two spoils of copper wire, he has abandoned the business and confessed that skunk culture doesn't pay. Last year he took off two hundred pelts of his own growing and caught about one hundred and twenty wild skunks. All that time an average skunkskin sold for \$1.15, while a good black one was worth from \$2.50 to \$3. Skunk-oil was selling for \$4 a gallon, so when Souci went into winter quarters with six hundred skunks in stock he felt as if he was right in the middle of the highway which leads to wealth.

Last winter after the ponds had frozen so deeply as to make the fish seek deep water he began to give his skunks a diet of raw rabbits. For a few weeks they did very well, and then they developed cannibalistic tastes and started in to eat one another, until half of his herd had been killed and devoured by the other half. This spring he raised about four hundred young skunks, all of which did well. He was hoping to retrieve his ill fortune and get rich in a few years, and had good grounds for his hope until he saw the fall bulletin of the fur trade. Skunkskins, which have been fashionable for ten years, are no longer in demand, mink, muskrats, and others having taken their place. The best pelts that would bring \$3 each a year ago are now selling for \$1.50 each, and poor white-marked skins are only worth the taking off. Skunk-oil has gone down \$1 on the gallon, making rheumatic patients feel very happy, but cutting into the earnings of the skunk-farm. Souci could find no profit. He will wait a reasonable time for somebody to come and buy him out, and then, if he gets no offer, he will kill off his stock.—New York Sun.

NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS.

The Cash Buyers' Union, 162 West Van Buren St., Chicago, is a corporation organized some years ago for the purpose of buying, manufacturing and selling from first hands Sewing Machines, Buggies, Harness, Wagons, Surreys, Carts, Baby Carriages, Bicycles, etc. In fact, every kind of merchandise needed by country people and at the lowest possible cost. Their success has been won by rigidly adhering to honorable methods and giving the best attainable value to their patrons, who are numbered by thousands in every state and territory in the Union. They have been constant advertisers in FARM AND FIRESIDE for years, and not a single complaint has come to us regarding their goods or their methods of doing business. That they have achieved success, and an enviable success, cannot be doubted. This firm issues a special catalog for each of their several lines, which they will be glad to furnish free on application. We know this firm and know that they are reliable, or we would not publish this notice.

A FRIEND OF THE 'POSSUM.

The Hon. J. C. F. McCook, of Chattahoochee, has a level head on the 'possum measure. We, too, are "possumists," but no pessimists, and we tremble with wrath and sadness at the present "slation" of this king of meats, and pray for the time to come when the law will cloak him with better constitutional franchise and privilege at the festive persimmon-tree—a longer lease on life and liberty, as in case of the dove and quail. "Equal rights to 'brer' 'possum and no special rights to the bird." Let the 'possum family increase and develop, and Christian religion and the democracy of our fathers do the same thing. The 'possum favors the most distinguished writer, William Shakespeare, the world ever produced, and this fact alone ought to be sufficient for our civilian to honor in some degree him and his whole family. The "last, loveliest and the best" plea for this "brer" is, he is bashful, timid, unassuming and sweet, like the winsome girl, and God bless your soul, we are "possum rights" folks over here in Russell, a world without end. Free 'possums at the rate of sixteen in the future to one of the awful pest is our platform and sentiments.—Columbus (Ga.) Ledger.

A COUGH, COLD OR SORE THROAT requires immediate attention. "Brown's Bronchial Troches" will invariably give relief.

IMPATIENT.

He—"I told your father we expected to be married next month, and he was wild."
She—"What did he say?"
He—"He wanted to know why we couldn't make it next week."—Puck.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

THE SUPPLY OF EGGS.

Not many American eggs are exported, and not many eggs are imported; none except in seasons when eggs here run very high. The imported eggs come from Sweden, Germany and Austria. They come in boxes containing hundreds of dozens each, packed in chopped straw. A few eggs in this country are still packed in straw in barrels, but the now well-known commonly used American egg-package is a box containing thirty or thirty-six dozen. The eggs are packed in the now familiar straw-board racks, which are called fillers. The eggs are stood on end, each in a pigeon-hole by itself, six dozen eggs in a layer. There are sheets of strawboard between the layers, and eggs are packed some five and some six layers to the box. Eggs are most costly in winter, but cold storage has done much to equalize the price of eggs the year round.—New York Sun.

INVESTMENT. \$4.40. RETURN. \$275. TIME. 12 MONTHS.

Mr. H. S. Lombard, living six miles south-east of town, bought eleven bushels of seed-wheat last year, making the seed cost him \$1.40. He put it on a twelve-acre patch, seeding less than a bushel to the acre, while the average farmer puts in a bushel and a peck. His wheat yielded 367 bushels, a little more than thirty-three bushels an acre; it was of good quality and sold for seventy-five cents a bushel, the top of the wheat market, when it sold. An investment of \$1.40 in seed returning \$275 is rather more than the average Harper county twelve-acre patch will do, but there's lots of farms "just as good," and, best of all, can be had at the old-time drouth-busted-boom rates.—Anthony (Kan.) Republican.

IN NANTUCKET.

A curious custom at Nantucket is the disposing at auction of any surplus stock at the butcher-shops. The meats are displayed on a bench in front of the store, and after the town crier has gathered a goodly audience the sale begins. The buyer has first choice of a lot, and after making his selection the sale goes on. Potatoes and other produce are auctioned off in the same way whenever there is a glut in the market. There is no floating population on the island to consume the surplus stock, and no tenement districts on which it can be unloaded at a sacrifice. These auction sales appear to be a very old custom at Nantucket, and the results are so successful that frequently a sale is held every evening.—Godey's Magazine.

PRESENCE OF MIND.

He (just introduced).—"What a very homely person that gentleman near the piano is, Mrs. Black?"
She—"Isn't he! That is Mr. Black."
He—"How true it is, Mrs. Black, that the homely men always get the prettiest wives!"
—Life.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 220 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

POULTRY PAPER, illus'd, 20 pages, 25 cts. per year, 4 months trial 10 cts. Sample free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cts. Catalogue of poultry books free. *Poultry Advocate*, Syracuse, N. Y.

WATCH AND CHAIN FOR ONE DAY'S WORK.

Boys and Girls can get a Nickel-Plated Watch, also a Chain and Charm for selling 14 doz. Packages of Blaine at 10 cents each. Send your full address by return mail and we will forward the Blaine, post-paid, and a large Premium List. No money required. **BLAINE CO.**, Box 84, Concord Junction, Mass.

Second Hand Material

Every description of second hand material procured from sheriff, assignee and receiver's sales. Barbed wire, smooth wire, Nails, Iron Roofing, Water Piping, Pig and Sheep Troughs, Hose, Lumber, Casing, in fact almost everything. Big reduction from usual prices. Catalogue FREE on application. Chicago Housewrecking Co., 35th and Iron Streets, Chicago.

SAVE MONEY.



FREE! FREE!

Catalogue contains our 1898 models of the Celebrated Cornish American Pianos and Organs, over 50 styles to select from. Mention this paper and the catalogue will be sent FREE, with postage paid. REMEMBER we are the only firm of actual manufacturers selling exclusively to the general public direct, at factory cost—the only firm where you get exact value for your money. There are no agents, dealers or middlemen's profits added. **CASH OR ON EASY PAYMENTS.** Organs shipped on thirty days' trial in your home under our special warrant required in advance. Safe delivery. REFERENCES:—Our bank, your bank, any bank, the editor of this paper, or any of the multitude of patrons who have purchased millions of dollars worth of instruments from us during the past 35 years. Our new book "The Heart of the People," containing a thousand recent references, sent free. Don't fail to write at once to **CORNISH & CO.** (Makers of American Pianos and Organs.)

"The survival of the fittest."

PARLOR QUOIT

or Horseshoe Game. Interesting for old and young. Agents; this sells at sight. Sample game, \$1.00 prepaid. Circulars free. **ARLINGTON BROS.**, P. O. Box C, Marion, O.

KLONDYKE COLD

is severe, but there are cold places nearer home. **PARKER'S ARCTIC SOCK** is best for rubber boots. Absorbs perspiration. Recommended by physicians for house, chamber and sick room, for men, women, children. Ask dealer, or send 25c. with size to **J. H. PARKER**, Room 12, 108 Bedford St., Boston, Mass.

A PERFECTLY EQUIPPED BATH

With Plenty of Hot Water. Dr. C. Wesley Emerson, Boston's noted physical culture specialist, says: "It meets a long felt want and meets it well." A Splendid Christmas Gift to your family and the best investment you've ever made. **TWENTY STYLES** Send 2c. for catalogue of Tubs, Heaters, etc. **Mostly Folding Bath Tub Co.**, 355 "P" Dearborn St., Chicago.

HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS

On December 7th and 21st the **Big Four Route** and **Chesapeake and Ohio Ry.** will sell excursion tickets from all points northwest, both one way and round trip, at greatly reduced rates to points in Virginia, North and South Carolina, and other southern states. Round-trip tickets will be good twenty-one days returning. Write for particulars and pamphlet descriptive of Virginia farm lands. **U. L. TRUITT**, Northwestern Passenger Agent, 234 Clark St., Chicago.

AVOID DISEASE

And live long by drinking pure water from the **ROYAL STILL**. Many contagious diseases are contracted ONLY by drinking impure water. The only way of avoiding such diseases is by using water from which all dangerous germs have been removed. \$1000 a month can easily be made: has been done by others, why not by you? Write to-day for particulars. Agents Wanted. **THE ROYAL STILL CO.**, Zanesville, Ohio.

YOUR PHOTO—ONE CENT.

Our new process photos are the finest ever produced; best ivory finish on heavy card-mounts. To introduce, we will for a limited time make them in lots of 1 or more dozen at one cent each and with each dozen include a beautiful silver plated frame with easel back. Send your photo and 12c. for a sample dozen. We return your photo postpaid with the dozen and our catalogue of 3,000 bargains. Get up a club: 3 doz. 30c.; 12 doz. 90c. Priced true to life. Write for extra. The most wonderful offer ever made. **ROBT. H. INGERSOLL & BRO.**, 65 Cortlandt St. Dept. No. 16, N.Y. City.

FREE EXAMINATION of all our watches, and you can refuse to accept and return them at our expense if not equal in every respect to what we claim them to be. No other house in the world can sell as cheaply as we can. The case of watch advertised today is beautifully engraved, heavily 14 K. gold plated, hunting, stem wind and set. Will last a lifetime. Movement is one of the best made and fully guaranteed, and the watch looks like a **Genuine \$40 Solid Gold Watch**. We send it by Express, C.O.D., to anyone, and if satisfactory, you pay only \$3.45 and express charges, otherwise return it. If money is sent with order we pay all express charges and give a beautiful Chain Free. Write whether gent's or lady's. Order to-day, as watches are advancing in price and our stock may not last long. **ROYAL MFG. CO.**, 334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

POULTRY RAISERS

CHRISTIAN HERALD, printed in colors, largest and best religious weekly in the world. \$1.50
AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, best 25-page illustrated farm and market weekly. 1.00
AM. AGRICULTURIST YEAR BOOK AND ALMANAC over 600 pages, worth. 1.00
NEW YORK WEEKLY TRIBUNE, best 20-page newspaper in the United States. 1.00
POULTRY KEEPER, 20 pages, printed in colors. It leads, others follow. .50
P. K. ILLUSTRATOR No. 1, 100 illustrations, poultry houses, incubators, brooders, etc. .25
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For only \$2.50 we send these four great papers one year and the five books, grand total. \$6.00
Sample P. K. with other papers free.
POULTRY KEEPER CO., Box 45, Parkersburg, Pa.

A GIFT AT THE PRICE!

Having recently purchased the entire stock of watches from a bankrupt firm, consisting of solid gold, silver and gold-filled cases, we shall offer a portion of the entire lot at prices never before heard of in the watch trade. Among the stock are 2,750 **AMERICAN STYLE WATCHES**, in 14K SOLID GOLD-FILLED CASES, which we shall sell singly or by the dozen to private parties or the trade, at the unheard-of LOW PRICE of \$3.98 EACH. Each and every watch is guaranteed a perfect timekeeper, and each watch is accompanied with our written guarantee for 21 years. Think of it! A genuine American Style Movement watch, in solid gold-filled case, and guaranteed for 21 YEARS for \$3.98. Those wanting a first-class, reliable time-keeper, at about one-third retail price, should order at once. Watch speculators can make money by buying by express. If found perfectly satisfactory, and guaranteed perfectly satisfactory in every respect. Cut this out and send to us and we will send a watch to you C. O. D., subject to examination, by express. Can make you a fair offer? Be sure to mention whether you want ladies' or gent's size watch. Price \$4.25 per dozen. Address, **SAFE WATCH CO.**, 9 Murray Street, New York.

AGENTS WANTED

Free outfit. One earns \$4000, several \$1000 yearly. A. P. O. 1371, New York.

WOMEN

Make \$2 to \$10 a Day selling our Neck-ties, Dress Skirts, new dress shields, etc. Cat. Free. Ladies' Supply Co., 3115 Forest Ave., Chicago.

ELECTRICAL

Bicycle, and Photo. Novelties low prices, 100 page cat. FREE. M. E. S. CO., 32 Cortlandt St., N.Y.

NEW

Big winner for Winter season canvassing. Nothing Like It. Bookmen, lady agents, etc., get extra chance. Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick, Springfield, Ohio.

WRITE QUICK

Agents wanted quick to canvass your county. No experience required. Wonderful improvement. Needed daily in every family. Sample in velvet lined case, 10c. **MUTUAL MFG. CO.**, 126 Chambers Street, N.Y.

CATARRH ABSOLUTELY CURED

with pleasant Home Remedies. Persons suffering with this loathsome, dangerous and disgusting disease should write for free treatment. **H. M. ASS'N**, 4601 Champlain Ave., Chicago.

NEW FAMILY RECORD

A beautiful picture in rich colors upon a background of solid gold. Tremendous seller. Agents delighted, sells at 50 cents each. Sample free for 12c. to pay postage, etc. 9 for \$1.00, 50 for \$5, 100 for \$9.50, charges paid. **HOME ART PICTURE CO.**, Chicago, Ill.

LADIES

I Make Big Wages—At Home—and want all to have same opportunity. The work is very pleasant and will easily pay \$8 weekly. This is no deception. I want no money and will gladly send full particulars to all sending 2c. stamp. Miss M. E. Stebbins, Lawrence, Mich.

LADY CANVASSERS

Wanted immediately, to take orders and make collections in a line especially congenial and profitable. **NOTHING EVER SEEN LIKE IT.** Besides carrying all expenses, the business will bring you in a **LARGE CASH INCOME** for many months. Supplies furnished free. Address **DEPARTMENT OF AGENTS, FARM AND FIRESIDE, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.**

\$5. 1898 BICYCLE \$5.00

to any one who will distribute a few of our Big Catalogues. We send bright new high grade 1898 Bicycles at \$14.00 to \$35.00. Don't pay for bicycle until received and examined. **THIS OFFER GOOD FOR 90 DAYS ONLY.** Don't delay, order now and save \$20.00. **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO.** (Inc.) CHICAGO, ILL.

A BIG OFFER

50c. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you will hang up in the P. O., or some public place, the two show bills that we send, we will give you a 50c. cert., and send it in advance with samples and bills. This will trouble you only one minute, and then if you want to work on salary at \$50 or \$100 per month, let us know. We pay in advance. **GIANT OXIE CO.**, 126 Willow St., Augusta, Me.

A SELF-MOVING LOCOMOTIVE, 15 CENTS.

Handsome finished, made of metal, strong wheels, gilt boiler, black smoke stack, bright colored cab with 4 windows. When wound up runs long distance across floor. Great amusement to children. By far the cheapest locomotive made, and a marvel of strength and beauty. Parents should buy one for the children. Mention this paper, and send 15c. in stamps and we will send Locomotive, and our story paper, 3 months, post-paid. **M. A. WHITNEY**, Box 3139, Boston, Mass.

I WANT A MAN

In every city or township to look after my business, on salary or commission; steady work and liberal pay the year round. One man cleared \$140.45 last week. Places for a few ladies. Don't delay or bother to send stamps, but write at once to **J. W. JONES**, Springfield, Ohio.

GOLD RINGS FREE!

We will give one half-round Ring, 15k Rolled Gold plate and warranted to anyone who will sell 1 doz. Indestructible Lamp Wicks (need not trim) among friends at 10c. each. Write us and we will mail you the Wicks. You sell them and send us the money and we will mail you the Ring. **STAR CHEMICAL CO.**, Box 455, Centerbrook, Conn.

CHRISTMAS PACKAGE FREE!

We will send a 50c. package of Gold and Chromo Christmas Cards, very nice and pretty, and the largest and best story paper in the world 3 months absolutely free if you send 10c. to pay postage. This offer is made only to introduce our paper in new homes. Order at once. **SOCIAL VISITOR CO.**, Box 3139, Boston, Mass.

THEIR BEAUTY STRIKES THE EYE

Quality fits the purse and pleases the eye. Lady's or Gentleman's Genuine American Gold Filled (not plated) Cases, 7 jeweled, Damasked Nickel Movements, enameled dial, screw bezel and back, richly engraved. Fully warranted. Men's 18 size, open face, \$3.75. Ladies 6 size open face, \$6.75. Hunting Case, \$1.50 extra. Watches, good ones, \$1.50. We are manufacturers, and sell all kinds of goods. Catalogue Free. **ELY MANUFACTURING COMPANY**, 307 and 309 Wabash Avenue, CHICAGO, ILL.

CANCER CURED

Without the use of the knife and with little or no pain, by **DR. M. G. FINGEREE**, 126 State Street, Chicago. **BOOK FREE.**

Send for our 1898 Souvenir Art Catalogue—with colored frontispiece representing An Ancient Egyptian Choir—originally painted for us by a renowned artist, and reproduced in fac-simile—The new Special Offers. Now Ready. **ORGANS FROM \$25.00** **ESTABLISHED 86 YEARS. WASHINGTON, NEW JERSEY.**

Selections.

"I TOLD YOU SO."

"Blow! blow! thou winter winds,"
Round Klondike's cheerless trail.
You'll never know how much of cheer
You bring to those who snugly here
Recall how earnestly they told
The searchers after hidden gold
Their reckless quest was sure to fail.
—T. S. Varnum.

THE USE OF THE HAIR.

An article by Dr. Exner in the Vienna "Klinische Wochenschrift" is abstracted in the Boston "Medical and Surgical Journal." He states his belief that the bodies of our ancestors were totally covered with hair, and that its present disappearance is due to the fact that its absence was regarded as a beauty, and hence that, in the choice of mates, preference was always given to those that had the least of it. "As to the physiological functions of hairs," says Dr. Exner, "it is admitted that they are modified sense organs, which have lost all connection with the nerves. It is probable that in primitive man the distribution of the hair upon the body was irregular, and that the length, color, structure and thickness of the hair varied with functions for which it was intended. The hair which has been left upon the body in the process of evolution has been left there for a definite purpose. Certain hairs serve as organs of touch, notably the eyelashes, the bulbs of which are surrounded by a network of nerve fibers, and in a less degree the hairs of the eyebrows. Both these serve to protect the eyes; for, being sensitive, they give warning of danger, so that reflex closure of the lids is produced. The eyebrows also prevent drops of sweat from running into the eyes, while the eyelashes keep out dust. In animals the hair serves to maintain and regulate the heat of the body, but in man the hair of the scalp alone serves this purpose. Hair is itself a poor conductor of heat, and retains air, also a poor conductor in its interstices. The fact that the forehead is not covered with hair Exner explains on the theory that in the contest between the natural tendency of the hair to protect the head against changes of temperature and the tendency of human nature toward beauty, the latter has prevailed more easily, because the non-conducting properties of that portion of the skull are increased by the air-containing frontal sinuses, and that portion of the head is easily protected from the heat of the sun by inclining the head forward."

VIRGINIA RAZOR-BACK HAMS.

The Department of Agriculture has recently issued a report on the subject of hams, a product of Isle of Wight, Surrey, Southampton and Nansemond counties, of Virginia. About 300,000 pounds are the annual output, most of which is exported to Europe. These hams are pronounced equal if not superior to the Westphalian. They are made from what is called the razor-back hog. During its youth this animal is allowed to range the woods throughout the summer, where it acquires the peculiar gamey flavor for which the flesh is noted. In the autumn, when the corn crop is gathered, the hogs are driven into the fields, in which every other row is planted with black-eyed peas. On these and the small corn that remains they fatten very rapidly. As a finishing process the animals are allowed to eat the small potatoes that are left after the crop is harvested. The method of curing the hams and bacon is peculiar to the locality. There are many imitations of the Virginia razor-back ham, some of which are probably equal to the genuine, where the same system of fattening and curing is employed. To secure the genuine it is necessary for individual consumers to give their orders a year in advance.

NEBRASKA'S EXHIBIT IN A PANEL.

Nebraska is making a splendid showing at the Illinois state fair. Under the arch of grain, and above the sacks of grain upon the wall is a panel which tells the story of Nebraska's prosperity. It is entitled "Nebraska's Crop in 1897," and in letters and figures large enough so that he who runs may read it says:

250 million bushels corn.
40 million bushels wheat.
10 million pounds beet-sugar.
6 million hogs.
1 million cattle.
6 million dollars dairy product.

As the people read and as they view the proofs of the statement, need it be questioned that they go away with a different impression and understanding of Nebraska?—Nebraska State Journal.

PROTECTING TREES.

The Lombardy poplar-tree, it is said, forms a splendid natural lightning conductor, its great height and lack of spreading branches enabling it to conduct a lightning stroke straight downward. No house by which one of these trees has been reared as yet has been known to suffer from the severest storm.

PERVERTED PROVERBS.

The rock of ages—the cradle.
Presumption is a hot-house plant.
Tools kept in constant use never corrode.
Discipline is the mainspring of a correct life.
Indolence and independence never coalesce.
False modesty is a pretender to an empty throne.

"A stitch in time" may save a patch in eternity.

Even a dull woodman knows the value of a sharp ax.

A man's weak spot is usually about the size of a dollar.

The habit of borrowing is one way of collecting misery.

He who pays his debts always has enough left to ride.

A butterfly is nature's tribute to the possibilities of life.

Genius never attempts to break rock with a tack-hammer.

The really strong never attempt to conceal their weakness.

Exchanging time for pastime leaves the profit all on one side.

Success does not depend upon finding what some one else has lost.

Simplicity gives the modest coloring to a transparent character.

One who controls his will has his only real property well in hand.

Attaining to manhood is but exchanging the model for the machine.

Selfishness comes to the front in time of need only when drafted.

The man who invents a substitute for air-castles will be entitled to a patent on his discovery.

He who has learned how to adjust himself to his surroundings is usually found at the head of his class.

Big words have often proved the saw in the hands of the user that severed the limb on which he was perched.

The man who staggers least under the weight of reverses is the man who walks upright when the sky is cloudless.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

REAL BLUE-GRASS.

One of the standing jokes of the blue-grass region is the fact that "blue-grass" is green. People who visit the famous rich grazing country found in Kentucky are often the subject for jokes when they want the "blue-grass" pointed out. But there is a blue-grass, a sample of which can be found growing at the Department of Agriculture, which is as blue as a cloudless sky on a summer day. It is a native of the Apache country. It can be found all through New Mexico and in some of the adjoining states. It is known as the Apache blue-grass. It has a broad spear and grows a couple of feet in height. A field covered with it looks like a lake in which has been dumped a barrel of indigo. It is said to be one of the most beautiful sights of the Southwest to view great fields of this blue-grass, dotted here and there with flowers. Especial attention has been paid to the cultivation of a patch of this grass at the Department of Agriculture, where it grows luxuriantly, and is one of the interesting sights to all visitors to the grounds of that department.—Washington Star.

A PECULIAR FRUIT.

A Swiss pomologist exhibited last autumn a fruit intermediate between the apple and pear, which matured on an espalier apple-tree in an orchard in the Canton Vaud, in 1893. The fruit bore traces of both species, having the eye of an apple, while the stem was inserted in the oblique manner of the pear. The cross-breeding was accidental, like that of the Loganberry, several branches of the apple having intercrossed with those of the pear. This case is considered different from simple hybridization and what is termed, botanically, "xenia." This consists of a cross-breeding evident in the seed and fruit, though usually fecundation of a flower by pollen from a different species results in a seed resembling that of the mother plant, while the plant growing from this seed has the characteristics of the male parent.—Rural New-Yorker.

OLD MATHEMATICAL WORK.

The Rhind manuscript, deciphered some thirty years ago, a hieratic papyrus now in the British Museum, written by an Egyptian priest, Ahmes, about 1700 B. C., is the oldest intelligible mathematical work extant. Another and older roll on a mathematical subject exists, but has not yet been deciphered.

Recent Publications.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

P. Emerson, Wyoming, Del. Wyoming Avenue Nursery catalogue of fruit, nut, shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery.

John R. & Wm. Parry, Parry, N. J. Parrys' Pomona Nursery catalogue of nut-bearing, fruit and ornamental trees.

Turner Brothers, Port Norris, N. J. Descriptive circular of the Pride of Cumberland strawberry.

A PIONEER SHOEMAKER.

WORKING AT HIS TRADE ALTHOUGH EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS OLD.

Mr. James McMillen, of Champaign, Has Followed the Shoemaker's Trade All His Life—Every Day at His Bench Working with Apparently the Same Vigor as a Young Man—A Sketch of His Life.

From the Gazette, Champaign, Ill.

At the advanced age of eighty-five years, James McMillen, of 112 West Washington street, is one of the most active men in Champaign, Illinois. Mr. McMillen is a pioneer citizen of the city, and his form is as familiar on the streets as that of any citizen of the town. All his life Mr. McMillen has followed the trade of shoemaker, and every day finds him at his bench, bending over his work with apparently the same vigor he commanded when he was a young man.

He has a little shop on North Wright street, in the vicinity of the University of Illinois, and he is the official shoemaker, as it were, for the students of that institution.

About a year ago Mr. McMillen was absent from his bench for several weeks, and his familiar form was missed along the streets. The local newspapers announced that he was dangerously ill. For months he was a sufferer, but finally he appeared again at his shop, and has lost but very few days since then and none, perhaps, on account of sickness. His friends were surprised to see him out again, and they were more surprised when he told them the cause of his recovery.

There was no small amount of local interest in his case, and a reporter visited him, to have him relate the story.

"I feel," said the spry old gentleman, "that I owe my life to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. Something like a year ago it appeared to me that I was almost a physical wreck. I was suffering from a disease of the kidneys. A thick scurf had formed on the bottoms of my feet and my ankles were terribly swollen and inflamed. In fact, they reached such a condition that I could not walk, and it looked as though my days were numbered.

"I read in the newspaper testimonials from people who claimed to have been cured of kidney trouble by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and thought that it would do me no harm to give them a trial. I bought a box of them at the drug store and began taking them according to directions. It may seem strange, but it is a fact that I felt the benefit of them almost as soon as I began to take them. After I had taken a few pills my urinal discharges became almost as black as tar and I noticed at the same time that the pain and soreness were leaving my kidneys.

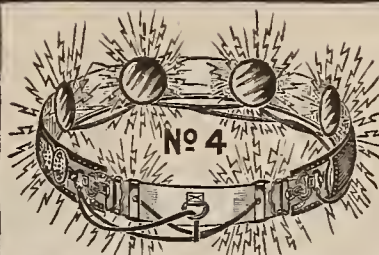
"A few days later the swelling began to go out of my ankles, and at the end of five weeks it had entirely disappeared, taking with it that terrible scurf which had formed on the bottoms of my feet and caused me so much trouble. I continued to gather my lost strength, and at the end of six weeks I felt entirely recovered and resumed my work at the shop. I think I took from four to five boxes of the pills and have taken none since."

Mr. McMillen's residence on West Washington street, is more than a mile distant from his shop, but nearly every day he walks the entire distance, morning and evening, and he could not do this if that swelling still existed.

Mr. McMillen has no backwardness in talking of the merits of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are sold in boxes (never in loose form, by the dozen or hundred) at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists or directly by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

THE BEST ELECTRIC BELT ON EARTH



FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

DR. HORNE'S
New Improved
ELECTRIC BELTS

Warranted to cure without medicines, the following diseases.

Rheumatism
Sciatica
Lumbago
Catarrh
Asthma
Neuralgia
Dyspepsia
Constipation
Heart Troubles
Paralysis
Nervousness
Spinal Diseases
Varicocele
Torpid Liver
Throat Troubles
Kidney Complaints
Sleeplessness
Nervous Debility

Cold Extremities
Female Complaints
Pains in the Back and Limbs
All Weaknesses in Men and Women.

READ EVERY WORD.

THIS OFFER IS GOOD FOR 30 DAYS ONLY

We make this Special Unprecedented Offer to Quickly Introduce and Obtain Agents in New Localities.

To quickly introduce and obtain agents in as many new localities as possible for Dr. Horne's New Improved Electric Belts and Appliances, we have decided to sell for 30 days only, our No. 4 Dr. Horne's New Improved Regular \$20.00 Electric Belt for only \$6.66, a price that will make it possible for every person reading this advertisement to get one of our best Belts at a nominal price. Never in the history of our business have we offered to sell this Belt at such a price, but we want an agent in your locality, and we believe that if you buy a Belt you will have so well pleased with it that you will either act as our agent or help us to get one.

Remember, the Belt we are offering you for only \$6.66 is our No. 4 Dr. Horne's New Improved Regular \$20.00 Combination Belt for men or women. It is adjustable and can be worn by any member of the family. Suspensory free with every male Belt. It is the best Belt we manufacture; in fact, the Best on Earth, and we make no exception to this statement. We have sold hundreds, yes, thousands of them, up to \$40.00. There is not a family but what should have one of these Belts, as it is the best and cheapest doctor, and you do not have to go out of the house to get it. It will last you for years with proper care, and will save itself doctor bills ten times over. These Electric Belts have cured thousands and will cure you if you will only give it a trial, as the many testimonials which we publish in our catalogue will prove.

YOU RUN NO RISK IN DEALING WITH US.

We do not ask you to send any money in advance. If you want one of these Belts we are perfectly willing to send it to your nearest express office, C. O. D., so that you can see and examine it free of any cost, just the same as if you came into our office or go into any store, and if you are perfectly satisfied with it, pay the express agent the price of the Belt and express charges and take it; otherwise it will be returned to us. Can any fairer offer be made you than this? We are the only manufacturers of Electric Belts who send Belts C. O. D., without asking one cent in advance. If you wish to send cash with order we will prepay all express charges and guarantee the Belt to be exactly as represented, or forfeit \$100.00.

WE HAVE NOW OFFERED YOU AN OPPORTUNITY OF YOUR LIFE and if you do not accept it you may be sorry for it, as we shall never again offer this Belt at such a price. It seems needless to say that we are sustaining a loss on every Belt we sell at the above price, but it is cheaper to introduce them in new localities in this way than to send traveling men to do it for us. If you want one of these Belts

CUT OUT COUPON

and send to us with your waist measure in inches. Don't delay. Order today if possible, otherwise you may forget it.

DR. HORNE ELECTRIC BELT & TRUSS CO.

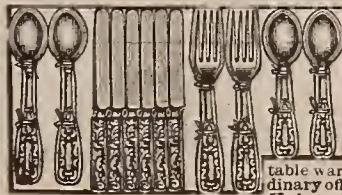
112-114 DEARBORN ST., CHICAGO, ILL., U.S.A.

P. S.—If you have no use for an Electric Belt please hand or mail this advertisement to some one that you know, who is not enjoying good health. By doing this you will favor them and us. We want a good agent in every locality to whom we can give steady employment. We only employ those who have used our Belts and can speak of their merits from personal experience.

REFERENCES:—As to our reliability we refer to any Express Company, any Bank in Chicago, and the many thousands all over the United States who have used our Electric Belts and Appliances during the past 20 years.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

Set of 1 doz. TABLE SPOONS. Set of 1 doz. KNIVES. Set of 1 doz. FORKS. Set of 1 doz. TEA SPOONS.



Remedies to be exactly as we claim. Address THE PARILLA DRUG CO., Station "O," New York City.

48 PIECES OF SILVER WARE FREE

12 Knives, 12 Forks, 12 Table Spoons, & 12 Tea Spoons, all full size & of beautiful floral design, made by the Sterling Silver Plate Co. & guaranteed. This valuable service given free to every person answering this advertisement who will send our Remedies. We don't ask you to pay a cent. If you agree to sell only 3 boxes of our wonderful Vegetable Pills & 3 boxes of positive corn cure at 25 cts. a box, write us to-day & we will send you the Remedies on consignment at once, when sold you send us the money & we will send you absolutely free a complete set of silver plated table ware exactly as described above same day money is received. This is an extraordinary offer to quickly put our Remedies within reach of all & we guarantee the Knives, Forks, Table Spoons & Tea Spoons which we give for selling our

AN AGENT WANTED

In every town and neighborhood to solicit subscriptions for the

Woman's Home Companion

Extra liberal commissions, and special helps furnished, including the most successful premiums. Good income assured workers.

Write at once for terms and sample copies. Supplies free.

Address

Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick,
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

COST YOU NOTHING

FREE Watch **FREE** WIND **FREE** STEM

To get you started as a customer, we will send **FREE** with your first order this \$8.00 watch, gold or ladies size, 14k. gold outside and inside cover and German silver, and good jeweled nickel works warranted 20 years. 1 set new pattern silver plated tea-spoons, \$2.00; 1 sparkling Java diamond stud, \$1.00; 1 genuine meerschaum pipe, \$1.00; 1 14k. gold plate chain and charm, \$1.50; 1 fine fountain pen, \$1.25; 1 box of our best Henry Clay Cigarettes full size and weight. This whole lot sent C.O.D. with privilege of examination. If pleased pay express agent only \$3.68 and expressage and he will deliver the whole lot with watch to you. All we ask is that you show it to your friends.

INSURANCE WHOLESALE WATCH CO. 169 Dearborn St. Chicago

Vapo-Cresolene

Cures While You Sleep, Whooping Cough, Croup, Asthma, Catarrh & Colds.

CRESOLENE when vaporized in the sick-room will give immediate relief. Its curative powers are wonderful, at the same time preventing the spread of contagious diseases by acting as a powerful disinfectant. Harmless to the youngest child. Sold by druggists. Descriptive booklet with testimonials free.

THE VAPO-CRESOLENE CO., 69 Wall St.
SCHIEFFELIN & CO., New York, Sole Agents.

FREE Home Music Box **FREE**

Most Wonderful Instrument. WILL PLAY 300 TUNES

To introduce them, one in every county or town furnished reliable persons (either sex) who will promise to show it. Home Music Box Co., P. O. Box 3045, New York.

Will \$500 Help You Out? If so, you offer you the Sole Agency for an article that is **Wanted in Every Home and Indispensable in Every Office**, something that **SELLS AT SIGHT**. Other articles sell rapidly at **Double the Price**, though not answering the purpose half so well. You can make from **\$500 to \$700** in three months, introducing it, after which it will bring a **Steady, Liberal Income**, if properly attended to. Ladies do as well as men, in town or country. **Don't Miss This Chance.** Write at once to **J. W. JONES, Manager, Springfield, Ohio.**

OUR GIANT ALMANAC Farm and Fireside's Giant Almanac and Annual Reference Book (450 pages) will be ready for delivery during the first week in January, 1898. It will be an absolutely reliable authority on political, agricultural, commercial, financial, educational, religious and miscellaneous subjects and statistics in general. Price, with Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents. Send orders now. First come, first served.

HEADACHE FROM ANY CAUSE QUICKLY CURED. IF YOU ARE A SUFFERER WRITE FOR CIRCULAR AND FREE TRIAL PACKAGE. ADDRESS, **THE ANTHONY REMEDY CO., HEMPSTEAD, N. Y.**

A SAMPLE sufficient to prove that **Dr. Hebra's Ungoid** is a certain and absolute cure for Itching Piles, Eczema, Tetter, or any other skin disease will be sent to any one for **Only Four Cents.** **THE C. G. BITTNER CO., Toledo, Ohio.**

FREE TO BALD HEADS. We will mail on application, free information how to grow hair upon a bald head, stop falling hair, and remove scalp diseases. Address, **Altenheim Medical Dispensary** Dept. J.S., Box 779, Cincinnati, O.

DR. O. PHELPS BROWN'S HERBAL OINTMENT Cures Through the Pores. Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sprains, Weak Back, Burns, sores of all kinds. All druggists or by mail, 25 cents. **J. GIBSON BROWN,** Dept. O. H., Jersey City, N. J.

PILES Absolutely cured. Never to return. A Balm to Sufferers. Acts like Magic. Trial box MAILED FREE. Address, **Dr. E. M. BOTOT, Augusta, Maine.**

Gleanings.

GIRL LIFE IN MEXICO.

There is a sweetness and a charm about a well-ordered Mexican home which is a revelation to northern people who have imbibed a false idea of matters here. The women of the best Mexican families are naturally of a gentle disposition, but they command obedience, and rarely spoil their sons, whom they idolize. There are exceptions, but they are not enough to break down the general social discipline.

As for the girls, no reputable Mexican father or mother would allow for a moment the thought of permitting a girl of any age to be in the streets after dark unless accompanied by an older person, a trusted servant or elder brother. So even among girls of the humblest class there is no street-strolling in the evening. There is plenty of proper freedom for young girls, and a larger liberty in the cities than formerly, but they are not allowed to run about without escort, and a very careful eye is kept on them by parents and relatives, even to distant male cousins. Such a thing as a young girl or young woman of any character or family being in the street at night, alone and unattended, is unknown.

The etiquette regarding the protection of women from molestation and insult is such as prevails in the southern states. There is no fooling in the streets, in the theaters and public places with respectable women. There is something left here of the old Spanish idea of the sacredness of womanhood, and the line is sharply drawn between honest women and the other kind.

NEED OF REORGANIZATION OF THE CONSULAR SERVICE.

The business men of this country who have given attention to the shipping question of late agree in saying that one reason for Great Britain's command of the trade is the aggressive methods of her representatives in all parts of the world. Upon returning from Europe recently, Mr. Charles H. Cramp said that a British official in foreign lands does not hesitate to do all in his power to send trade home to his countrymen. He is expected to do so, and the more successful he is in securing contracts the better he is liked. What more convincing argument is needed for improvement in our consular service and the removal of politics, as far as possible, from that service? The merchants and manufacturers of the country are pleading for a reorganization of the consular service, and the present administration will profit by undertaking a vigorous policy in this regard.—Baltimore Journal of Commerce.

HELPS KEEP THE HOUSEWIFE YOUNG.

No matter how dull things may be elsewhere the kitchen work must go on constantly, for people will eat, and the plaintive cry from women that their work is never done has led men to make many time-saving and labor-saving inventions, of which one of the most meritorious is the Enterprise Meat Chopper. This machine has been steadily improved for fifteen years and is now perfected—simple, durable, economical. It is found in kitchens all over the world, and besides the great saving in time it effects, it induces the cook to prepare many delicious and economical "chopped up" dishes she would not prepare before the meat chopper came in use because of the time and work they required. It saves the housewife's health and good looks by lightening her heavy burdens. For preparing hash, scrapple, hamburger steak, hogs-head cheese, croquettes, meat cakes, chicken and lobster salad, also for chopping suet, tripe, codfish, clams, vanilla beans, scrap meat for poultry, corn for fritters, etc., the Enterprise Meat Chopper is simple, perfect and economical. The makers, the Enterprise Manufacturing Company of Pa., Philadelphia, will send for 4 cents in stamps the "Enterprising Housekeeper," a book containing 200 choice recipes.

AMERICAN LABOR.

Labor is one of the great elements of society—the great substantial interest on which we all stand. Not feudal service, or predial toil, or the irksome drudgery by one race of mankind subjected to another; but labor, intelligent, manly, independent, thinking and acting for itself, earning its own wages, accumulating those wages into capital, educating childhood, maintaining worship, claiming the right of elective franchise, and helping to uphold the great fabric of the state. That is American labor; and all my sympathies are with it, and my voice, till I am dumb, will be for it.—Daniel Webster.

A KLONDIKE MAP.

An up-to-date Lithograph Map of the Alaskan Gold Fields. Printed in six colors. Complete. Accurate. If interested, send five two-cent stamps to Advertising Department, The Nickel Plate Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

A New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, etc.—Free to our Readers.



Mr. R. C. Wood, Lowell, Ind.

DISORDERS of the Kidneys and Bladder cause BRIGHT'S DISEASE, RHEUMATISM, GRAVEL, PAIN IN THE BACK, FEMALE COMPLAINTS, URINARY DISORDERS, DROPSY, etc. For these diseases a POSITIVE SPECIFIC CURE is found in a new botanical discovery, the wonderful KAVA-KAVA SHRUB, called by botanists, the *piper methysticum*, from the Ganges river, East India. It has the extraordinary record of 1200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly on the Kidneys and cures by draining out of the Blood the poisonous Uric Acid, Crates, Lithates, etc., which cause the diseased conditions.

Rev. A. C. Darling, of North Constantia, New York, testifies in the *Christian Witness* that it cured him of Kidney disease after sixteen years' suffering. Hon. R. C. Wood, of Lowell, Ind., writes that in four weeks the Kava-Kava Shrub cured him of Kidney and Bladder disease of ten years' standing, and Rev. Thomas M. Owen, of West Pawlet, Vt., gives similar testimony. Many ladies also testify to its wonderful curative powers in disorders peculiar to womanhood.

That you may judge of the value of this *Great Specific* for yourself, we will send you one Large Case by Mail **FREE**, only asking that when cured yourself you will recommend it to others. *It is a Sure Specific and cannot fail.* Address, The Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 409 Fourth Avenue, New York City. Mention this paper.

BACO-CURO

DON'T STOP TOBACCO Suddenly and rack the nerves. Take BACO-CURO, the only cure while using tobacco. Write for proofs of cures. 50c. or \$1.00 boxes; 3 boxes (guaranteed cure) \$2.50. Of Druggists, or of us. **EUREKA CHEMICAL AND MFG. CO., La Crosse, Wis.**

Gently Weans

FINE SILVERWARE FREE

We absolutely guarantee every piece of this silverware to be as described and to give entire satisfaction or money refunded.



Postage or expressage paid by us in each case.

This silverware can be used in cooking, eating and medicines the same as solid silver. It will not, cannot corrode or rust. Teaspoons of equal merit are sold in jewelry-stores for \$1.50 or more a set; but because we buy direct from the manufacturers in enormous quantities, and because we do not make any profit on this silverware (subscriptions and clubs are all we want), we furnish it at a great bargain. In beauty and finish it is perfect, and for daily use, year after year, there is nothing better. The base of this ware is solid nickel-silver, which is silver color through and through. The base is well plated with coin-silver, and will last a lifetime.

GRAND SPECIAL OFFERS

This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Teaspoons for 75 Cents.
This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Tablespoons for \$1.25.
This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Forks for \$1.00.
This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Knives for \$2.00.
This Paper 1 year and both Sugar-shell and Butter-knife, 50c.

If ordered at one time and to one address, we will send the complete set of silverware, 26 pieces in all, and this paper FIVE years, for FIVE DOLLARS. If desired, the paper will be sent one year to five different addresses.

Any of the above SPECIAL offers may be accepted and the name can be counted in a club. A club-raiser's own subscription, also renewals and new names, may be counted in a club. **Positively no reduction will be made or allowed from the special prices named above.**

FREE FOR CLUBS

Set of 6 Teaspoons given for a club of FOUR.
Set of 6 Tablespoons given for a club of SIX.
Set of 6 Forks given for a club of FIVE.
Six Knives for a club of FIVE and \$1.00 cash.
Sugar-shell and Butter-knife (both) given for a club of THREE subscribers.

Address **FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, Ohio.**

FREE WATCH

For lady or gent, stem-wind, stem set, American movement, heavy plate. Written guarantee to equal for time any **SOLID GOLD WATCH** made. No fake, this is an honest offer to place our wonderful Remedies within the reach of all. We will give this watch free to every person who will sell only 6 boxes of our vegetable pills, and 6 boxes of our positive corn cure among their friends at 25 cts. per box. If you agree to do this, write to-day & we will send the goods by mail, when sold you send us the money & we will send watch same day money is received. **PURA CO., 30 W. 18th Street, New York City.**



ARE YOU TOO FAT?

You can reduce your weight by a simple remedy. Anyone can make it at home. Mrs. H. Weber, Marietta, Ohio, whose photo accompanies this ad. says: "It reduced me 40 lbs. and improved my health wonderfully." No starving; no sickness. Sample box and particulars sent for five 2 cent stamps to cover postage, packing, etc. Add. **HALL CHEM. CO., Box, St. Louis, Mo.**

VITAL CONES CURE

YOUNG, MIDDLE-AGED and OLD MEN in all stages of Nervous Exhaustion without internal medicine. Sample package of the best Modern Treatment **FREE**. Send statement of case, age, and loc for postage, etc. Address **The LaCrox Dispensary** [Estab. 1867.] Milwaukee, Wis.

ASTHMA CURED! Dr. Hair's cure has brought happiness to sufferers. A \$1.00 bottle and valuable treatise sent free, you pay the expressage. Address, Dept. 160, **DR. E. W. HAIR, Cincinnati, O.**

OPIUM and Liquor Habit cured in 10 to 20 days. No pay till cured. **Dr. J. L. Stephens, Dept. A, Lebanon, Ohio.**

GOLD Dr. Dunnell's Croup, Sore Throat and Cough Powder. Best in the world. Ask your dealer for it, or by mail 25c. **DUNNELL MED. CO., Scranton, Pa.**

PILES and **CONSTIPATION** quickly cured. Sufferers will learn of a simple remedy free by addressing **Prof. Fowler, Moodus, Conn.**

CANCER CURED AT HOME No Pain. Book Mailed **FREE**. **MASON CO., 557 A, Fifth Ave., N. Y.**

FITS A Great Remedy Discovered. Send for a **FREE** package & let it speak for itself. Postage 5c. **DR. S. PERKEY, Chicago, Ills.**

RUPTURE A positive, radical cure at home (Sealed). Book giving full particulars sent free. Address **DR. W. S. RICE, Box F, Smithville, Jeff. Co., N. Y.**

BED-WETTING CURED or no pay. Mrs. **B. Rowan, Milwaukee, Wis.**

SOFTENING EYES **DR. ISAAC THOMPSON EYE WATER**

A \$5 OXFORD BIBLE \$2

SENT FREE FOR EXAMINATION....

In order to absolutely prove that this is the genuine Oxford Bible and exactly as described below, we will send it to any express office free with permission to examine it thoroughly. If you want it send us two dollars through the express agent (send \$2.50 when the edition with index is ordered); if you don't want it, the agent will return it to us. It costs you nothing to examine the Bible with your own eyes. We pay all express charges on the Bible. * * * * *

Premium No. 220.

THE IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT

1,592 PAGES, 5 1/4 Inches Wide, 8 Inches Long. Red Under Gold Edges

This Bible given FREE for a club of TEN yearly subscribers to Farm and Fireside, or for a club of FIVE and \$1.

HIS is the latest edition of the genuine Oxford Teachers' Bible. The helps have recently been revised by the ablest scholars and soundest biblical authorities. The helps, being new and copyrighted, cannot be found in any other Bible.

This Bible is bound in an excellent quality of soft, flexible leather, lined with silk cloth. It has overlapping edges in divinity circuit style. The thin Oxford Bible paper is used throughout. Being issued from the official Oxford University Press, England, the printing is clean and sharp and the book finished perfectly. This is the first time the genuine Oxford Bible, in this size and quality, has ever been offered so cheap.

It contains 1,592 pages. The Old and New Testaments take up 1,000 pages, and the remaining 592 pages are devoted to the helps. There are over 150 illustrations, many of which are full-page size, and 15 excellent colored maps of the Holy Land. There is a Concordance, Glossary, Marginal Notes, Indexes, and everything that is required to make the best Bible helps ever known. The regular price of Bible is \$4.00 to \$5.00.

We will send this Bible, and Farm and Fireside One Year, for Two Dollars.

For 50 cents additional (\$2.50) we will send the Bible with patent index of 49 indented thumb-leathers. A bargain.

WHEN ORDERED SENT BY MAIL, the money must accompany the order; but if on examination the Bible is not perfectly satisfactory, return it to us at once, and we will immediately refund the money.

Your name in pure gold-leaf will be stamped on the outside of the front part of the leather binding for **35 cents extra.** But in this case the full amount of money for the Bible must be sent with the order, and the Bible cannot be returned to us. Write or print the name very plainly.

This Illustration is Reduced in Size

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And Does Not Do the Bible Justice

NEW COPYRIGHT EDITION

The psalmist's hope in prayer.		PSALMS. Of the communion of saints.	
<p>Ps. 37. 2. 4 The Lord is righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked. 5 Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion. 6 Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which withereth alone it giveth up: 7 Wherewith the mower filleth not his hand; nor he that bindeth sheaves his bosom. 8 Neither do they which go by say, The blessing of the Lord be upon you: wo bless you in the name of the Lord.</p>	<p>Ps. 130. 1 The psalmist professeth his hope in prayer, 5 and his patience in hope. 7 He exhorteth himself to hope in God. A Song of degrees. O Lord, unto thee, O Lord, I cry. 2 O Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. 3 O Lord, thou, Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shalt stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared. 4 I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. 5 O my soul, exulteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: 2 I say, more than they that watch for the morning. 6 Let Israel hope in the Lord: for with him is plentiful redemption. 7 And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.</p>	<p>Ps. 133. The length of the communion of saints. A Song of degrees of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that run down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; 3 As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.</p>	<p>Ps. 134. An exhortation to bless God. A Song of degrees. Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord. 2 Lift up your hands 7 in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. 3 O Lord, that made heaven and earth: bless thee out of Zion.</p>
<p>Ps. 104. The Lord is righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked. 5 Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion. 6 Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which withereth alone it giveth up: 7 Wherewith the mower filleth not his hand; nor he that bindeth sheaves his bosom. 8 Neither do they which go by say, The blessing of the Lord be upon you: wo bless you in the name of the Lord.</p>	<p>Ps. 135. An exhortation to praise God for his power, 8 for his judgments, 15 the unity of which, 15 an exhortation to bless God. Praise ye the Lord. Praise ye the name of the Lord: 6 praise him, O ye servants of the Lord.</p>	<p>Ps. 136. A Song of degrees. Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord. 2 Lift up your hands 7 in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. 3 O Lord, that made heaven and earth: bless thee out of Zion.</p>	<p>Ps. 137. A Song of degrees. Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord. 2 Lift up your hands 7 in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. 3 O Lord, that made heaven and earth: bless thee out of Zion.</p>

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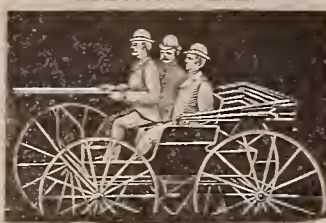
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FROM July 1 to December 1," says the "Cincinnati Price Current," "the exports of wheat and flour from the United States were close to 100,000,000 bushels, compared with 78,000,000 last year, 53,000,000 in 1895, 65,000,000 in 1894, 87,000,000 in 1893, 90,000,000 in 1892, and 106,000,000 in 1891, the last being the year of largest exportation. During the six seasons previous to 1897 the exports for five months ending December 1 have varied from 42 per cent of the entire movement for twelve months, in 1895, to 53 per cent in 1893 and 1896, the years 1891 and 1892 each representing 47 per cent. This season, however, had a low position of reserves at its beginning, so that it is reasonable to consider that more than an average percentage has been already moved. Very likely, however, the resources of the country will admit of about as much more for exportation as has already gone forward."

Considering the unfavorable condition of fall-sown wheat and the prospect of a shortage in winter wheat next harvest the exports for the past two months have been phenomenally large. The conditions for winter wheat have been so decidedly unfavorably that a check in exports would naturally have been expected. It is certainly time to give a sober, second thought to the outlook for next harvest. The long period of drought was finally broken by abundant rains, but wheat got a very late start, has made small growth, and has gone into the winter season in a very poor condition to stand severe weather or the usual alternate freezing and thawing of spring. Unless the winter is unusually favorable there cannot be a full crop of winter wheat next harvest.

To the "North American Review" for November statistician Mulhall made a valuable contribution on "Thirty years of American trade." He says, in part: "The foreign trade of the United States is relatively small. With a territory as large as Europe and a population double that of Great Britain; with domestic industries which nearly equal the aggregate of those of Great Britain, France and Germany, the American people carry on less trade with foreign nations than any of the three aforesaid countries, the ratio of such trade being only \$25 per inhabitant of the United States, against \$36 in France or Germany, and \$92 in Great Britain. There

has been, nevertheless, a prodigious development of trade in the last quarter of a century, namely:

	Millions of Dollars Yearly.			Dollars per Inhabitant.
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	
1867-71	425	340	765	20.10
1872-81	548	635	1,183	25.70
1882-91	712	763	1,475	25.40
1892-96	772	892	1,664	24.50

"Comparing the fourth period with the first, we find that in twenty-five years there was an increase of 82 per cent in imports, 162 per cent in exports."

"There can be no doubt that trade received a great impulse from the resumption of specie payments in 1880. Of this we have conclusive evidence when we compare the progress made in the last twenty years by the four principal commercial nations of the world, namely:

	Millions of Dollars.			Ratio of Increase. per cent.
	1876	1896	Increase.	
United States.....	1,001	1,662	661	66
United Kingdom..	3,034	3,542	508	17
Germany.....	1,790	1,997	207	11
France.....	1,814	1,862	48	8

"Thus we see that the growth of the foreign trade of the United States far surpasses that of other nations, which is the more remarkable because 86 per cent of American shipping is engaged in coasting or inland navigation, while the bulk of trade over the high seas is done on foreign bottoms, the energies of the people being mainly directed to the development of home industries and internal traffic."

After reviewing the imports and consumption of textiles, Mr. Mulhall says: "Sugar and coffee come next after textiles in the list of imports, consumption increasing much faster than population, the surest proof of national prosperity and of an improved condition among working classes, namely:

	Tons Consumed Yearly.			Pounds per Head.	
	1867-71	1872-91	1892-96	1867-71	1892-96
Native sugar.....	40,000	118,000	240,000	2	8
Imported sugar	505,000	962,000	1,710,000	30	57
All sugar.....	545,000	1,080,000	1,950,000	32	65
Coffee.....	107,000	186,000	200,000	6	9

"As compared with population, we find that the consumption of sugar has doubled, that of coffee risen 50 per cent per inhabitant, in an interval of twenty-five years. And in connection with this subject, as showing how such articles of consumption are affected by increase of wealth, we may point to the fact that the census of 1890 gave each inhabitant of the Union an average of \$1,049, against \$673 in 1870; that is, a rise of 56 per cent in the individual fortunes of the people."

One of the most striking things in the article is this review of food production:

"The world is only beginning to have evidence of the enormous productive power of the United States. In twenty years the production of grain has increased 77, meat, 72 per cent, as shown in the following table:

	Grain, yearly in tons			Meat, yearly in tons	
	1872-76.	1892-96.		1872-76.	1892-96.
Maize.....	27,200,000	43,400,000	Beef.....	1,300,000	2,610,000
Wheat.....	7,100,000	12,300,000	Mutton..	340,000	440,000
Oats, etc...	8,800,000	20,400,000	Pork.....	1,200,000	1,850,000
Total.....	43,100,000	76,100,000		2,840,000	4,900,000

"The quantities of food yearly exported are sufficient to feed thirty million persons in Europe, from which it appears that American farms raise food for one hundred millions of people yearly. The Western prairies are capable of carrying double the present number of live stock and producing ten times as much grain as they do."

"The internal trade of the United States," says Mr. Mulhall, "is nine times as great as the amount of interchange with foreign countries. It rose forty-nine per cent in the interval of fourteen years, from 1880 to 1894, the increase of population having been thirty-six per cent.

	Million Dollars.		Dollars per Inhabitant.	
	1880.	1894.	1880.	1894.
Agricultural Products.....	3,350	3,882	67	57
Manufacturers.....	5,360	9,372	107	142
Forests and Fisheries.....	520	624	10	9
Minerals.....	384	452	8	7
Total.....	9,614	14,330	192	215

"The average per inhabitant is \$23 higher than in 1880, which shows that however rapid the growth of population the development of natural resources is still more striking. If we count the working-year as 300 days the internal trade will be found to average forty-eight million dollars daily, while external commerce is little over five million. Moreover, the former progresses much faster, having risen (as we have seen) forty-nine per cent since 1880, whereas foreign trade is hardly ten per cent higher. Internal trade is the best gauge of national progress, because it reflects the power, energy and resources of a people."

It is reported that on a number of farms in the Pajaro valley, California, the average yield of wheat this year from fields in sugar-beets last year was over forty-four bushels an acre. The favorable relation of the sugar-beet crop to other farm crops becomes manifest in every locality very soon after the new industry has been established. Beets do best not planted continuously in the same field, but in rotation with other farm crops. The deep plowing, clean, careful and thorough cultivation required for a successful beet crop gives a marked increase in the yield of the other crops that follow in rotation. The yields of wheat, for instance, have increased twofold in some localities. Again, the use of beet-pulp in connection with proper grain rations as food for stock largely increases the farm's supply of rich, organic manure, to the benefit of all farm crops. In some localities the beet-sugar industry has trebled the usual number of animals kept on the farm, with a consequent rapid increase in the fertility of the soil.

These are some of the incidental reasons for the fact that wherever the beet has been grown the land has at least doubled in value. In Germany the rental value of the best farming-lands has been increased from \$5 an acre to \$10, and even \$15. It is reported that lands near beet-sugar factories in Nebraska, worth \$20 an acre three years ago, are now worth as high as \$100. The "Corn Belt" says: "The effect of sugar-beet culture in the Grand Island district has been such that not an acre of the land is now for sale. Many acres can be and are rented for cultivation to town people and workmen in the factory. Near the factory the rental price is \$6 to \$8 an acre; within ten miles of the factory it is \$5 an acre. Five years ago the rental price was only \$2 an acre. When corn and other cereals were raised the land was for sale; since sugar-making has been demonstrated a success there is nothing to do but rent the land."

This year the annual premium offered by the Grand Island factory for the greatest yield of beets to the acre was taken by Henry C. Giese. He gives the following statement: "This year I raised beets on three acres, on which I used fertilizer, with the following result:

Yield from the three acres.....	66 tons.
Price per ton received at factory.....	\$ 4
Total cash receipts.....	264
Rent of land.....	21
Other expenses and labor.....	69
Total cost.....	90
Profit from three acres.....	174

"On twenty-one acres of other land, on which I did not use fertilizers, I raised 325 tons of beets, or an average of 15½ tons to the acre. The account stands:

Raised from twenty-one acres.....	325 tons.
Received for beets at factory.....	\$1,300
Rent of land, \$6 an acre.....	126
Cost of labor and hauling.....	502
Net profit from twenty-one acres.....	672

FARM AND FIRESIDE

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NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

The Sugar Boom. I have put myself on record as favoring the production of beet-sugar in this great country. We have all the facilities to make all the sugar needed here. Just at present there is talk everywhere of starting beet-sugar factories. The farmers in this county, for instance, have called a meeting this week, in Lockport, to talk the matter over, and if possible come to some agreement between the capitalists, who will put up the factory, and the farmers, who will raise the beets. Now, all should understand that there is no child's play in either performance. Foreign competition is formidable and sugar must be produced cheaply. To do this, the most approved machinery and methods must be used, and everything must be made to count. Wasteful methods or carelessness in any respect will surely lead to failure. The manufacture of beet-sugar requires complicated and costly machinery, too, and consequently it must be on a rather extensive scale, in order to insure the smallest possible cost of production of a pound of sugar.

* * *

Capitalists and farmers have to work together for their mutual benefit. The former, whose money builds the factory and works the beets into sugar, cannot do anything without the farmers, who grow and furnish them the beets. That is plain enough, and in some cases it has been the stumbling-block in the way of the undertaking. It is not always an easy thing to secure several thousands of acres of sugar-beets for one central point, and yet this has to be done in order to furnish to the factory the required raw material. Without a full understanding with the farmers around them capitalists cannot afford to invest the half million dollars necessary to build and equip a sugar manufactory. On the other hand, farmers cannot afford to raise sugar-beets on a large scale unless they are reasonably sure of a market for them at fair prices. Both parties to the bargain must hide themselves to fulfill their part of the deal.

Contracting for the Beets.

It may not be difficult to arrange with the farmers for 2,000 or 5,000 acres of sugar-beets, if anything like a reasonable price is offered. We must remember that growers are always liable to overestimate their facilities, and to go more largely into a new undertaking than they can carry out. For people with some experience in beet-growing, and having suitable soil for the crop, it is a comparatively easy task to grow a few acres of sugar-beets. The crop needs prompt attention in its earlier stages, especially while the plants are very small and in danger of being overrun with weeds. If that attention is given, most of the work can be done by horse-power, and the crop is safe anyway. If that attention is neglected, the whole undertaking will end in failure and disgust with the business. Indeed, right here lies one of the chief dangers and risks of the beet sugar-making industry in this country. Of one hundred farmers, each of whom pledges himself to raise ten acres of beets, there may be fifty, sixty or even more who will find that there is more to it to get the crop started, and consequently more work and less money, than they had anticipated, and they will want to quit the next season. Partial failure of the crop will keep the factory short of raw material the first year, and the unwillingness of those who have made a first more or less unsuccessful trial in beet-growing to continue to grow beets will be the stumbling-block in the way of getting a full supply of raw material in succeeding years. For this reason it would be a wise move on the part of the sugar-makers to restrict the number of acres that each farmer is to grow for a first trial; in other words, to contract with 1,000 farmers for raising three acres each rather than with one hundred farmers for raising thirty acres each. It would be safer even to get along with a smaller supply of beets the first season than to try to run the factory to its fullest capacity from the start.

* * *

Beet Prices. The prices that factories are willing to pay for sugar-beets probably range from \$4 to \$5 a ton, depending to some extent on the percentage of saccharine matter in the beets grown. Can we raise sugar-beets at such a figure with profit? No doubt we can if we have the right kind of soil and manage right. Some people can afford to raise sugar-beets at \$3 a ton, while others would not make anything even if they were paid \$5 or more a ton. Our aim must be to grow big crops, or at least full crops, and a full crop should not be less than 800 bushels, or about twenty tons, an acre. An acre will thus bring not less than \$80, and perhaps up to \$100, and over. If I had the right kind of soil I would not hesitate to plant ten acres in sugar-beets if insured \$4 a ton. Indeed, I would rather grow ten acres of beets than that many acres of potatoes. And \$800 to \$1,000 seems like a nice little income for the average farmer, even if he has to spend a small amount for extra labor in weeding and thinning.

* * *

Other Problems. Another problem before the sugar-beet grower is that of manuring his fields. Surely he wants to grow the largest possible crop of beets that have the highest possible percentage of sugar. By high manuring with stable manures, and perhaps by giving a moderate dose or so of nitrate of soda, we can secure enormous yields of beets; but if such manure is rather fresh or rank, and the nitrate applications be overdone, we may find the beets watery and deficient in sugar. I do not believe that the free use of well-rotted stable manure and moderate applications of nitrate of soda and muriate of potash will affect the percentage of sugar in the beet unfavorably, but to be entirely on the safe side I would select the same kind of soil and the same style of manuring for beet-growing that I would for potato-growing. Fill the soil with humus and nitrogen by means of clover rotation, the clover being fed with mineral manures, such as dissolved phosphate rock and muriate of potash; then use moderate dressings of thoroughly rotted stable manure and perhaps wood ashes. A few hundred pounds of superphosphate an acre will hardly ever come amiss, and the wood ashes will most likely increase the percentage of sugar as well as the yield of beets. It will be worth while, too, to give nitrate of soda (in very

light applications) a comparative trial, for the sake of noting the effect on yield and sugar percentage. No doubt the yield can be largely increased thereby, and if this increase is not at the expense of sugar in the produce it will pay handsomely.

* * *

Another problem is that of transportation. The crop is bulky. Where the fields are more than a short driving distance from the factory transportation on rails will be absolutely necessary, and a full understanding about rates should be had with the railroads before one undertakes to grow beets extensively at some distance from the factory. For large fields the use of hand-carts and of rails laid across the patch may also be advisable.

* * *

The American Coffee-berry. I have tried the coffee made from the roasted soy (or soja) bean of the variety recently advertised as "American coffee-berry." I do not object to the flavor and, although I used to be very fond of the genuine coffee and always knew the difference between good and poor coffee, at present I would rather use the substitute than the real article, for the reason that I always sooner or later feel the ill-effects of the real coffee when I use this at all freely, while the coffee made from the soy-bean cannot possibly do any harm to the user, and must be stimulating just the same because it contains true nourishment. The use of strong teas and coffees is a confirmed habit with most people, and a bad one at that, and perhaps no less serious in its results than indulgence in spirituous liquors and in the use of tobacco. Of course, we must drink. What is needed in a hot drink is water with some pleasing flavor. Properly made soy-bean coffee, with plenty of sugar, has the appearance and something of the flavor of the real coffee, and is quite pleasing to my taste. If I can prevail on my kitchen-managers, I propose to have it on my table right along, in place of the real coffee.

T. GREINER.

SALIENT FARM NOTES.

Water for Stock in Winter. Some farmers will scarcely believe it, yet it is nevertheless a fact that stock is more apt to suffer for water in winter than in summer. When the weather is warm it is not difficult to remember that stock needs water, and if one happens to forget they will remind him by gathering about the troughs and calling. But when the weather is very cold the farm animals and fowls prefer to seek the shelter of the sheds and stacks, and as they drink so little of the icy-cold water usually supplied, one is misled into thinking they are not thirsty.

"The idea that stock does not need much water in winter," said an experienced stock-raiser, "is a mistake that cuts down the profits at an astonishing rate. Give an animal only about half enough water, and that cold as ice, and it neither fattens nor grows at a profitable rate. We throw food away when we give it to stock that is half famished for water. If one will only consider the matter a few moments he will see why stock living on dry feed need water, and lots of it. And I have found that water fresh from well or spring is warm enough for stock in winter. If for any reason it is impossible—or I should say difficult—to supply them with fresh well or spring water, then I would use a large tank and put in it a tank-heater."

* * *

One of the chief reasons why hens do not lay well in winter is because they are not supplied with sufficient water. Whenever hens are seen eating snow we may safely conclude that they are badly in need of water. A friend of mine has a two-gallon tank arranged so that the water flows into a small cup only as it is drunk out, and this tank is set on a box, sixteen inches square and ten inches high, having a sheet-iron top. A small tin lamp within the box warms the sheet-iron top right where the tank is placed and prevents the water from freezing during the coldest weather. About five cents' worth of kerosene keeps the lamp supplied two weeks. The water is not heated, merely kept from freezing, and his thirty hens drink more water than in summer, and lay steadily

all winter. To be sure, he feeds them a well-balanced ration, but he emphatically declares that the best ration in the world will not bring the eggs unless the hens have an abundance of temperate water to drink.

* * *

Tree-protectors. Last week I was asked by nearly a dozen men how to protect fruit-trees from rabbits and mice. The best way I know of to protect young trees from rabbits is to incase them in plastering-lath, woven together as slat and wire fence is woven. I cut the lath in halves, and for one and two inch trees weave five pieces together. For three and four inch trees I use six pieces. The wires are placed about three inches from the ends of the laths, and are cut off an inch from the outer laths. When these cases or protectors are placed about the trees, the ends of the wires are given one turn about each other. I give them only one turn, forming simply two hooks, because that is sufficient to hold them, and they are easily unhooked when I wish to inspect the trees for borers. These cases will last about four years, by which time the trees have outgrown them.

For the larger trees I am preparing a wash made up of freshly slaked lime, sulphur and copperas. The lime is slaked in a half barrel and thinned to the consistency of thin cream, and by that time the half barrel is nearly full. The sulphur is mixed with water, in which a little glue has been dissolved, and thoroughly stirred in the wash, then the copperas, dissolved, is added and the whole well stirred again. To a half barrel of wash I use two pounds of sulphur and one of copperas. The glue helps to make it adhere longer. This wash is applied to the trees with a large brush. I paste them from the collar up to among the lower branches. It not only keeps rabbits from injuring them but it also prevents sun-scald. One coat will be given early in December and another in February.

Where rabbits are very bad I would apply this wash to the lath cases used to protect small trees, and to the trees above the cases, to protect them if we should happen to have a heavy snow. When a deep snow lies on the ground for some time rabbits can find but little to eat and naturally they become ravenous. It is then advisable to prune a little and scatter the prunings about the orchard. The rabbits will eat them rather than attempt to gnaw trees that are covered with lime. It is also advisable to do some vigorous hunting about that time.

* * *

Christmas. And now Christmas is at hand. The same merry, merry Christmas every one of us used to look forward to with such bright anticipations when we were young. To us a Christmas tree was then a veritable fairy dream and Santa Claus the one personage we would not offend for the world. As we grew older our private interest in Santa waned to some extent, and many of us imagined that as we changed the world changed; but, bless your soul, the bright, bespangled gift-laden Christmas tree has lost not one whit of its interest, and Santa is the same mysterious, good, old fur-covered fellow he was when we were young. The eager little faces, bright, sparkling eyes and up-lifted hands are everywhere, and the chatter just as loud and enthusiastic as when we were "tow-heads."

Let us do all we can to make this time a happy, merry dream to the children about us—a jolly, joyful, rapturous time that will live in memory's halls as long as life shall last, and be vividly recalled whenever Christmas chimes are rung.

And let us not forget those of our neighbors who may not be so fortunate as we. Perhaps we know a little girl who never yet has been the proud possessor of a real doll. Let us see if we can gladden her heart just once. Then there is the boy who never skated, except in his dreams. A pair of bright skates would make him think the day of jubilee had truly come. There may be in the neighborhood a poor fellow who has been "pulling hard against the stream" for years, or a widow who is struggling to provide herself with bread. The gift of a sack of flour would touch a tender spot and make life seem brighter. We may not be able to do much along this line, but every little thing we can do is a ray of bright sunshine for some one—a little bit of Christmas joy to some poor heart.

FRED GRUNDY.

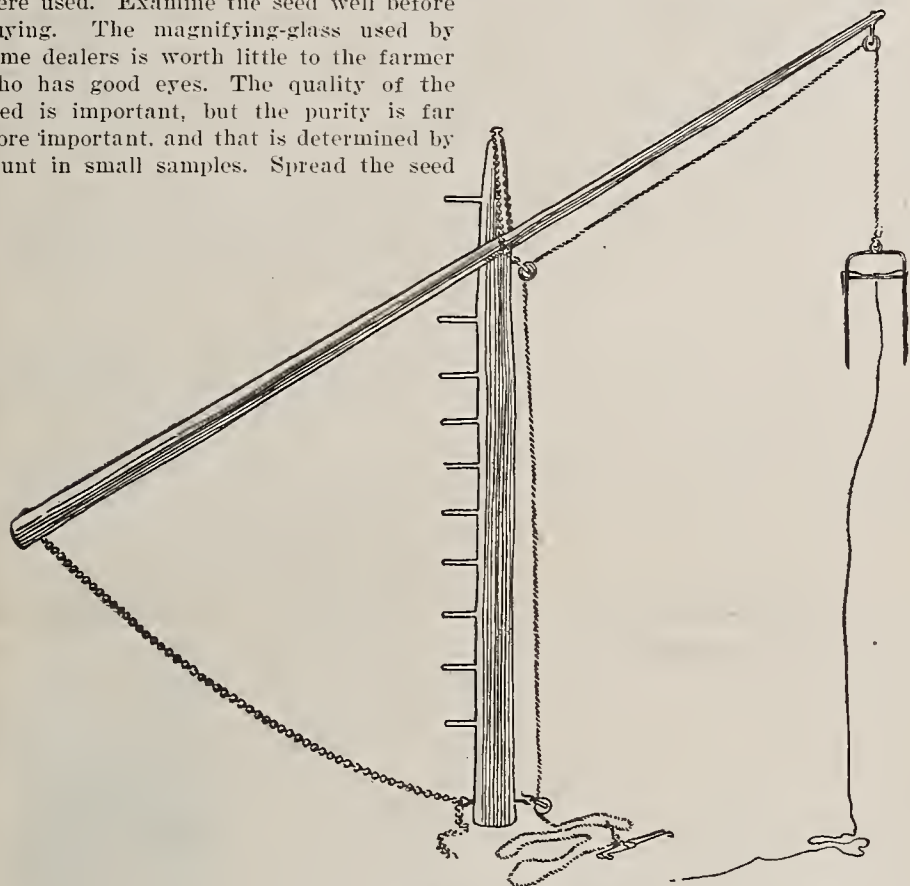
Our Farm.

FARM THEORY AND PRACTICE.

BUY CLOVER-SEED EARLY.—It is claimed that the present clover-seed crop is large and prices are not high. Whenever prices are not unreasonably high it is good policy to buy the supply for spring seeding early in the winter, no matter if prices may decline somewhat later in the season. The reason for this course simply is that more than half the seed offered for sale is not first-class, and the farmer who waits until seeding-time before purchasing his supply too often feels compelled to take a lot of seed that should not be sown. The mischief that has been done by foul grass and clover-seed in this country is beyond calculation. Land owners must awaken to the necessity of using only the purest seed obtainable. Noxious weeds are overrunning the meadows of most sections. It has cost me much money and labor to eradicate some weeds introduced on my farm many years ago by a lot of clover-seed, and the work is hardly finished yet. The plantains and other weeds that ripen seeds with clover have no right place in our meadows, and they would not be there if due caution were used. Examine the seed well before buying. The magnifying-glass used by some dealers is worth little to the farmer who has good eyes. The quality of the seed is important, but the purity is far more important, and that is determined by count in small samples. Spread the seed

plants. This is a suggestion only for those who may fail to keep a stand of wheat or timothy this winter on some fields that cannot be tilled with profit another year. Seed early and heavily.

SURFACE-DRAINING.—The weak condition of the wheat-plant this winter makes it more easily harmed in freezing and thawing weather, and extra care should be used that no water be permitted to stand on the surface of the fields. Under-drainage is desirable, but very many farmers have not reached that yet. Before my wet land was underdrained, dependence was placed upon surface ditches made with a plow and shovel. A furrow was run from each small basin to a permanent ditch, and the loose earth in the bottom and on the sides of the furrow was removed with a shovel. This may seem slow and laborious work, but it is more speedy than it may seem to many, and I am sure that I have gotten several bushels of wheat as pay for each such day's work. Dead water on the surface is death to wheat-plants. A few furrows in an acre of land helps the water to sink and draws it to ditches and prevents heaving of the plants. They should be made in



POLE-STACKER.

thin on a piece of paper, or, better yet, moisten a finger and thrust it into the seed, and a single layer will adhere to it when withdrawn. Then watch for and count any foreign seed. If two or three noxious weed-seeds are found on the entire surface of the finger, refuse the lot. Careless farmers will buy it, and their ground will become foul. Demand the purest seed on the market and have no other. Look for such seed early in the season, and thus make sure of getting it. The stockman that pastures suffers less loss from use of impure seed than the farmer who wants a hay and seed crop, but neither can afford to use any other than the purest. Accept no statements of dealers about "re-cleaned stock," but buy only that which proves upon examination to be all right. Much seed on the market would be dear as a gift.

THE STAND OF TIMOTHY.—In the great states north of the Ohio river young timothy-plants go into winter with little chance of surviving its hardships. I have never seen the situation more discouraging. The seed was sown with wheat in dry ground, and in vast areas the plants were hardly above ground the middle of November. Some of the fields will be practically bare of both wheat and timothy next spring, unless the winter is extraordinarily favorable. The most of the land seeded to wheat, excepting the black corn-land, is not strong enough for another plow crop, and in such cases I believe that it may be profitable to seed some fields with clover and timothy in the spring, trusting to a good growth of grass without any cover crop. I have gotten heavy growths of clover without any cover crop, and spring-sown timothy has a better chance with young clover-plants than thick wheat-

undrained land at seeding-time, but if this has been neglected, an open spell of weather in winter should be improved in getting the water away from the roots of wheat in land too flat for good surface-drainage.

TOP-DRESSING LAND.—Stable manure is analyzed and its value a ton estimated on the basis of chemicals, but no chemist can tell the value of a load of manure used as a thin top-dressing for tender timothy and wheat plants. A ton of fresh, strawy stuff, taken from stalls in which straw is used freely as an absorbent, contains a very limited amount of the three elements valued in a commercial fertilizer, much of the bulk being only straw, but the protection it may afford tender plants may make its actual value to the farmer three-fold its chemical value. The result of slight protection to timothy is often remarkable. A bare corn-stub, cut and left on the ground, apparently incapable of affording any protection, often has several timothy-plants by its side when the ground a few inches away is bare of plants. It checks freezing and thawing, and protects from drying winds of spring. It is good practice to bed stock heavily when straw is abundant, and draw the manure direct from the stables for use as a thin top-dressing for fields that have been seeded to grass. Manure pays big returns when thus used. It not only supplies all its fertilizing elements to the soil, but often insures a good sod of clover or grass where otherwise there would have been none. The physical effect of stable manure, which cannot be estimated by the chemist, is very often the most valuable one to the farmer.

RESEEDING MEADOWS.—The life and productiveness of timothy meadows may be favorably affected by harrowing in the spring and reseeding with clover. Sow the seed first and then use a sharp drag-

harrow. The bare spots in the old meadow start the clover-plants, and the scratching of the sod is often beneficial to the timothy. Many meadows could be renewed in this way more profitably than by breaking and cropping. A fair proportion of clover-plants are needed all the time in a meadow to offset in some degree the drain upon fertility made by timothy. The latter

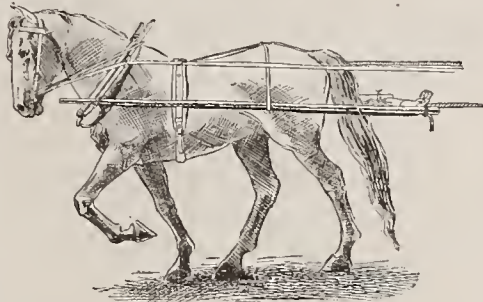


FIG. 1.

ter, unmixed with clover, exhausts fertility more rapidly than many suppose.

DAVID.

THE POLE-STACKER.

The farmers of Utah live in towns and have but few barns or sheds on their farms, which, in many instances, are two or three miles away. They often stack hay and grain in small, fenced lots or corrals on an upland spot, where an artesian well or reservoir furnishes water, and there feed horses and cattle during the severest months of the winter. Numerous devices have been used in hay-stacking, some being too expensive and others being patented by unknown parties who occasionally demanded royalties for the use of their ideas.

The most complete and the cheapest device yet discovered is what is generally called the pole-stacker. It is simple in construction, easily handled and is not patented. Although not in use but two or three years the pole has become a universal favorite and can be seen in many fields, corrals and stockyards.

The material necessary for the pole-stacker consists of two poles twenty and thirty feet, or longer, as desired, three pulleys, two chains and two ropes. The short pole, usually a dry red pine or balsam, is set about three feet in the ground after slats have been nailed on, or pins driven in auger-holes every two feet, which makes a ladder for getting up and down when necessary to fix the top chain or drop the lifting-pole. A short chain is fastened around the standing-pole and left to drop about two feet, where it hooks around the stacker. This gives the pole plenty of play and enables the man on the stack or wagon to swing it around at will. The long pole is chained at the butt end with a chain which regulates the height of the stack and holds the stacker in place after being swung around for the hay on the wagon. The pulleys, ropes and fork are handled as with other stackers.

JOEL SHOMAKER.

WINTER CARE OF HORSES.

There is a golden mean in feeding animals which should be observed. There is a tendency where one takes pride in horses to feed too much. The liberal feeder should take especial pains to provide abundant exercise. In the case of a team reduced in flesh by hard labor during summer and autumn, feeding up to recruit in winter is essential. Feeding alone, however, without moderate work leaves the creatures in softened flesh, which vanishes before the heavy work of spring.

If it is the intention to sell horses in early spring they should, by all means, be fed up to a plump condition, and the muscles should be hardened by moderate work. The careful buyer inspects more than the outside appearance. He expects constitution and endurance as well as clear sight and sound limbs. Too often the gait of the colt is neglected to the detriment of its sale. Too often striking, interfering, and forging will permanently impair the limbs or feet, when by attention in time these defects might have been permanently cured by use of proper devices. The expense of shoeing in the course of years might also be much reduced where the policy of prevention is adopted in the early stages. Colts as well as children may be corrected in faults of carriage and gait, as well as other habits, and such training adds largely to their value.

The teams intended for the regular work of the coming season, if in fair condition at this time, may be fed moderately in proportion to the exercise or work per-

formed in winter, and will be in better condition for spring labor than if over-fattened. Winter grazing or, in lieu of this, ensilage, roots, vegetables, bran and other cooling rations should be afforded every alternate day; at least, it is desirable to prevent any feverish condition of the organs of digestion. The occasional irritation found in the disposition of the older horses arises from a neglect of proper cooling diet in winter. M. A. R.

USING HORSE ON HORSE-FORK.

When farm help becomes as scarce and expensive as it is at the present day, we are frequently compelled to let a small boy or girl assist in running the horse-fork. To make it easy and convenient for any help of this kind, I used the past season, to the complete satisfaction of all concerned, the device which Fig. 1 illustrates.

A couple of sticks, about the width of the traces, and heavy enough to support the necessary weight, are fastened to the common harness by slipping the one end through the breast-strap rings and tying the other to the end of the traces. The lazy-strap is shortened up, to keep both sticks and traces nearly level. A common single-tree with ropes attached is hooked to the cockeyes in the usual way. An extra rig could easily be constructed for this purpose of an old harness. The traces should be made of hard-wood sticks, say seven eighths by two inches, fastened to the hames by long staples, the same as the common leather traces. A couple of short straps from a worn-out breast-strap would answer to hitch the cockeyes to the tapered ends of the stick traces.

A rig of this kind would make the driver's work mere sport; nothing to lift or carry, no handling of whiffle-trees or rope. How to attach the rope to whiffle-tree is shown by Fig. 2a; pass the end of the rope through staple from under side, wind around whiffle-tree, double the end of rope and pass the loop under the rope on top of whiffle-tree. This is the simplest tie that can be made; it will not get loose, never draw itself tight, so that a

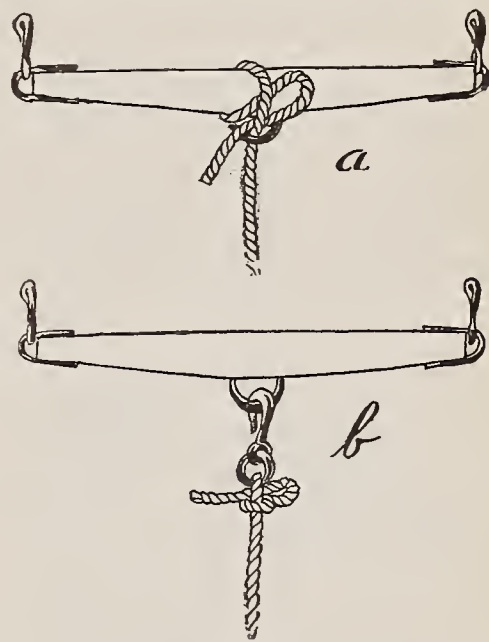


FIG. 2.

child can untie it any time, will wear the rope the least and is quickly tied or untied.

If it should be desirable to detach the rope after each dumping, a hook and rin, Fig. 2b, should be used. This is sometimes an advantage in drawing back the fork. The weight of rope and hook dragging on the ground is just break enough to prevent the fork from coming back too fast and striking against the beam. G. C. GREINER.

Weak and Nervous

A Living Testimonial to the Merit of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"I am a living testimonial to the great merit of Hood's Sarsaparilla. I was very weak and nervous and much run down in health, and I had severe pains in my kidneys and a heart trouble. After taking a few bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla I am quite strong and the pains have left me, and I feel like an entirely different person." Mrs. ELLA DOLPH, 395 Spring Mill Street, Mansfield, Ohio. Remember

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. \$1; six for \$5. C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla. 25c.

Our Farm.

NOTES FROM GARDEN AND FIELD.

WINTER LETTUCE.—Several of our readers ask me about the prospects for profit in raising winter lettuce, and how to market the crop. There used to be a good chance for profit in this business, but for a year or two I find the markets usually so well supplied and prices so much lower than formerly, that it takes good management and close calculation to secure much more than what the crop costs. We, with our small houses, and consequently greater expense of producing each dozen heads, can hardly compete in the large markets with those who run large houses, and can produce a given quantity at lowest cost. On the other hand we have our local markets, and can work them for all they are worth. In our small operations we are enabled to sell our crops at highest retail rates, while the large growers have to take the middleman's prices. For a home market, where the lettuce-heads go directly from the greenhouse to consumer, we only take pains in producing good, solid heads, and need not worry about the keeping of the heads after they are removed from the benches. Those solid heads we can best secure by having the soil very rich, supplying the needed moisture by sub-irrigation, if practicable, and especially by selecting the hard-heading, forcing varieties like Buist's White Perfection, Landreth's Hothouse, etc. But where the heads have to be taken to a large village or city to be exposed for sale in groceries, etc., I would surely prefer the potting method. In other words, we grow the plants in pots (thumb size) sunk into the benches, about ten inches apart each way. When taken up, pot and all, the heads may be set into flat boxes, with moist, Sphagnum-moss surrounding the pots so as to keep the roots moist and cool, and the plants will keep fresh and crisp for quite a while. When sold, the plants may be knocked out of the pots, and the latter saved to be taken back by the grower for another crop. Close cropping is necessary in these days of competition to make much out of lettuce-forcing. Keep a supply of plants growing in pots, from seed sown every two weeks, so that partly-grown heads are ready to be planted out on the benches, pots and all, just as soon as one crop is taken off. People with little or no experience in lettuce-forcing should begin on a small scale, and learn the business before going into it heavily.

* * *

BEST MONEY CROP.—One of our readers, this time a friend in Missouri, asks me to tell him the best and quickest way to get money out of five acres of new ground that seems to be good for gardening, fruit-growing and poultry-keeping. He thinks of planting horse-radish, onions, small fruits, and raising poultry, too. Here is a puzzle. It often puzzles me right at home, what crop to select in order to have the best chances for profit, and this where all the surrounding conditions are known to me. I would pay to some person a good price for telling me truly the best and quickest way how to get money out of my land. There is much guesswork about it; and surely, nobody who is wholly unacquainted with the soil itself, the local markets and market demands, etc., could undertake to give trustworthy advice. Sometimes there is money in horse-radish. So is there in early peas, in onions, especially when planted on the new method (the new onion culture), in celery, squashes, sweet corn, etc. But which of these crops gives the best chances for profit depends more on the whims of the markets and the seasons than on fixed and definite conditions, and I would beg of my friends not to expect definite advice from me on any of these lines. Usually we can make strawberries pay as well as any other crop, especially among the small fruits; but in order to get best results we have to resort to intensive culture, thus growing not only big crops, but also big berries, and then try to put them on the market in most attractive shape. Last year we took especial pains in arranging the baskets, first using only good berries from the bottom up, and then carefully arranging the berries on top in order to make them show off to best advantage. Crates thus put up sold quickly at top prices. I mention this simply as a general principle. All other

crops should be grown and marketed on somewhat the same plan. For instance, if we conclude to make horse-radish our money crop, we must select deep rich soil, free from lumps, stones, etc. This soil should be plowed deeply, if possible subsoiled, and mellowed up very thoroughly. All this is for the purpose of growing straight, single roots of good size, not the sprangly ones consisting almost wholly of "fingers and toes," as one finds so often on our markets. Then, if the roots are properly trimmed and cleaned, and thus put on the market at the proper times, this crop would in many instances be a very profitable one. And so I might go through the whole list of garden-crops. Of course, we want some poultry on the place. In moderate numbers, fowls always pay.

* * *

SQUASHES PROFITABLE.—Just at the present time Hubbard squashes are selling at one cent a pound in the Buffalo commission stores. It is a very small squash that weighs less than five pounds, an ordinary fair specimen tipping the scales at ten to fifteen pounds. As in former years, I again succeeded in growing some squashes in my sweet-corn field, although the crop was not large because the bugs had taken most of the plants, and all plants were rather late. Ordinarily it is almost as easy to raise a crop of winter squashes as it is to grow one of pumpkins, but see the difference in value of crop, at least when we feed the pumpkins to our cattle, and sell the squashes at the going market rate. A ton of squashes can be grown on a small piece of rich ground, and will sell readily in most seasons at from \$10 to \$20, and often much more. Of course one has to be within easy reach of a good market. I can easily take a ton and a half to the load, and go to Buffalo and return in one day. What other vegetable grown with equal ease would bring \$30 a load? If I succeed in getting a full stand of plants, on properly enriched soil, and keep the bugs from destroying them, I am almost sure of a heavy crop of winter squashes. At least here I seldom have any trouble otherwise. But the yellow-striped bug will sometimes get the better of me in spite of all precautions and remedial efforts. It was so this last season. It accounts for a comparative scarcity of winter squashes and the probability of higher prices later on. Before this I never failed to carry my squash-plants through all right, and without material loss either from the yellow-striped bug or from the squash-borer and the black squash (stink) bug, so long as I used tobacco-dust and bone-meal freely. This last season the bugs at one time came in perfect swarms, and had done a good deal of damage even to plants already quite large when the mischief was discovered. Next year I think I shall start my squash-hills in wooden plant-boxes, under glass, and transplant to open ground in the same way that I handled most of my melons this year. The method has proved very satisfactory. Gardeners who supply regular retail customers with winter vegetables, such as forced lettuce and radishes, also with winter-stored cabbages, celery, carrots, turnips, beets, potatoes and possibly fruits, eggs, poultry, butter and other country produce, will do well to raise and store up a good supply of winter squashes, which latter can often be sold in this way at two to three cents a pound. The question is how to store them for safe-keeping. Squashes and pumpkins require a reasonably warm and dry room. Somebody recommends to give the squashes a coat of shellac, so as to exclude the air. If any one among my friends has tried this, I would be glad to have a report.

T. GREINER.

ORCHARD AND SMALL FRUITS.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

ORCHARD CORRESPONDENCE.

RASPBERRIES IN OCTOBER.—I have picked berries from my raspberry patch continuously since July 20, 1897, and I expect to pick several good meals yet. Three years ago last April, I set out plants of the Cuthbert and Thornless varieties. The following year I picked berries from the Cuthbert variety until the frost killed them. Last year we had a severe storm in September, which ruined the late crop, but this year my Cuthberts have made a splendid yield of fine large berries of excellent flavor. Last year's growth commenced to bear about July 20th, continuing until about August 15th, when

this year's growth began to bear fruit. In fact, about September 15th to 25th the crop was a good average one for the regular raspberry season, and the good berries were very large and of good flavor. I picked forty-one quarts of nice, large berries from seven bushels of eight to ten canes each, this season, from my Thornless variety. I consider this an excellent yield and the berries are hard to heat for shipping purposes, and also for table use, being large, firm and of good flavor. I have seen or heard of nothing to compare with my raspberries, although other parties in this city claim to have the same varieties. It cannot be on account of extra care, because mine receive only ordinary care and cultivation. They are grown on a sandy loam mixed with light clay. E. R. N. Logan, Utah.

[This case simply shows that plants have not the stable qualities we are wont to ascribe to them, and that they may vary greatly under certain conditions. We occasionally see in a patch of Cuthbert and other raspberries a few plants bearing fruit on the new growth during autumn, and we know not the reason for it any more than we know why all the plants in this Utah garden have done the same. Reasoning from analogy, I should expect similar reports of raspberries from other sections. It may be that this feature will not remain permanent, and yet again it may fix a new type in berries. It is certainly a very interesting experience.—ED.]

TO PREVENT RABBITS GNAWING TREES.—If the trees are washed with weak lye up so high that the rabbits cannot reach above the place washed, I will assure any one that will do this that they will not be bothered with rabbits gnawing their trees. The way to wash the trees is to take a bucketful of the lye, tie a bunch of rags on the end of a stick, dip the rags into the lye and rub the trees with the dripping wet rags. The lye will be good for the trees and that alone will be worth the trouble. One hand can wash 400 to 500 trees in a day. I have used this remedy for several years with the result that I have the prettiest young orchard in this county (Pickett), and not one single tree has been ruined by rabbits, although last year I had three trees skinned by them, by being careless about washing my trees, but when I saw the trees skinned I had my trees washed at once, with the result that not another tree was skinned that winter. Tennessee. G. A. S.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Wild-geese Plum Not Bearing.—L. M. S., Cooper, Ill. The wild-geese plum is a variety that will not bear fruit, although it will flower profusely, when planted by itself, but like many other varieties of plums, must have a companion near it to furnish pollen. But when properly planted it is a very productive and excellent kind. I think you have failed from planting it by itself and the others whom you refer to have succeeded owing to their planting it near other kinds. It would be a good plan for you to set out a tree of Poole, Forest Rose, Cheuey or De Soto, near it to produce pollen and then you will get fruit on both. It is a good plan to set plum-trees in hen-yards since the hens eat the curculio which is the insect that so often injures the fruit. Forest-trees do not injure fruit-trees, except that when growing near-by they may dwarf them by their shade or by root-crowding.

Fruit Rotting in the Cellar.—W. E. W., Waskom, Texas. It seems to me that the spores of the rot must have been present in the cellar, or else the fruit had become exposed to them before it was put in. I think that before storing fruit in a cellar it is always a good plan to burn sulphur in it to destroy the germs, using enough sulphur to thoroughly fill the air with its fumes. Then after the fruit is put in burn a little more of it, and repeat each week thereafter to kill any germs that may be brought in on the fruit, or that may be brought in on the fumigation. I have used this treatment for more than ten years in vegetable and root cellars and in cellars where nursery stock is stored, and with good results in keeping off mildew and rots. In the wintering of dormant roses in cellars I have found it invaluable. It should be remembered that the fumes of sulphur kill tender green leaves, but that dormant wood and fruit will stand a great deal of it without injury.

Plum-seedlings—Prune-trees Dying.—J. W., Middleton, Oreg. 1. Mix the pits with a little chaff or leaves and spread out not over three inches thick on the surface of the ground and keep them moist all winter. They should never be permitted to get dry from the time they are taken from the fruit until planted. Plant in the spring after this treatment and I think they will grow for you. Many people make the mistake of allowing their plum-plants to get very dry before planting, when they will often stay in the ground a year before starting. 2. If the trouble is in the kind of stock used, you can tell it by examining the union, when if it is perfect the trouble is probably due to some other cause. If the union is poor the stock may be the cause. The prune often does very well on peach-roots, but the peach is better adapted to light rather than heavy land. I am inclined to think the trouble is due to some insect or disease, rather than to lack of congeniality between stock and scion. You can raise your own plum-trees by grafting the roots just below the surface of the ground when they are one or two years old, or they may be grafted in August. The grafting should be done very early in the spring and the scions cut as they are needed for grafting. They should not be cut in the autumn, as is often customary at the north with the apple.

A Wonderful New Shrub.

A New Cure for Diseases of the Kidneys and Bladder, Rheumatism, Etc.—A Strange Botanical Discovery that Proves a Blessing to Humanity.

A FREE GIFT TO ALL READERS.

A great physician once declared that Nature has provided in the field of botany a sure Remedy for every disease, if man had the ability to discover it. As disease is the disturbance of some natural function of the body, so Nature provides a remedy for such disturbance and thus cures the disease. This seems specially true of the late discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub, or as botanists call it, the *Piper Methysticum*, found on the Ganges river, East India. This wonderful shrub has a peculiar and most beneficial effect upon the human kidneys in conditions of disease. The kidneys, as is well known, separate from the blood and cast out through the Urine, certain poisonous matter, such as Uric Acid, Urates, etc., which if retained in the system cause Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Gout, and other maladies of the Bladder and Urinary Organs. The Kava-Kava Shrub heals the disordered kidneys, restores them to their natural functions, and thus enables them to cast out of the Blood the poisons which cause disease in the system.

The discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub, like the discovery of quinine by early Christian missionaries in Peru, was first made by observing the use of the shrub by the natives. Of all diseases that afflict mankind, Diseases of the Kidneys are the most fatal and dangerous, and it is but natural that the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub—Nature's Positive Specific Cure for Diseases of the Kidneys—is welcomed by suffering humanity, and its medical compound Alkavis endorsed by the Hospitals and Physicians of Europe.

The celebrated physician, Dr. J. M. S. Thomas, reports that Alkavis cured four cases of Bright's Disease among his patients, and writes:

"I have fully tested the value of the Kava-Kava Shrub in Kidney, Bladder and Urinary disorders, as well as in Rheumatism and Dropsical Effusions, with the most remarkable and satisfactory success."

Rev. H. A. Marden, of Shortsville, Va., testifies to his cure of Rheumatism, Kidney and Urinary disorders of thirty years' standing by the use of this wonderful Remedy. Rev. J. W. Gossett, of Parsons, Kansas, gives similar testimony, as does Rev. J. A. Johns, of Wilherforce, Ohio.

Rev. A. C. Darling, of North Constantia, Oswego County, N. Y., writes that he had suffered for sixteen years with Heart, Kidney and Bladder disorders, often having to use the vessel sixteen times during the night. Alkavis promptly cured him, and as he writes, he now sleeps like a baby.

Mr. J. N. Hood, of Midway, Delaware, was completely cured of Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder Disease by this wonderful Remedy, and, now at seventy-eight is enjoying perfect health.

Among the leading doctors who write of the great curative effects of this New Remedy, are Dr. L. F. Calhoun, of Jonesville, La.; Dr. J. B. Cyfert, of Frost, Texas, and Dr. G. C. Prichard, of Phelps, New York, who have used Alkavis for themselves or their patients with most remarkable success in curing Bright's Disease, Nephritis, Inflammation of the Kidneys or Bladder, Locomotor Ataxia and Rheumatism.

Rev. W. B. Moore, D. D., of Washington, D. C., Editor of the "Religious World," writes of the wonderful curative effects of Alkavis in his own case, as it cured him after years of suffering from Kidney and Bladder disease and Rheumatism.

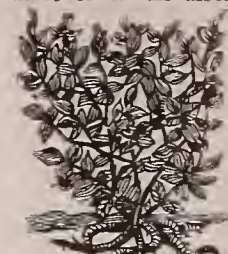
Mr. R. C. Wood, a prominent attorney of Lowell, Indiana, was cured by Alkavis of Chronic Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder trouble of ten years' standing. He writes that he had been treated by all his home physicians without relief, and had become very despondent, but was finally cured by Alkavis.

Rev. Thomas M. Owen, of West Pawlet, Vermont, writes that Alkavis quickly cured him of Kidney and Bladder disease of many years' standing, and speaks of it as a splendid remedy.

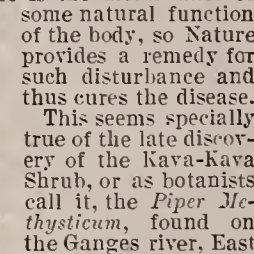
Mr. William Butler, of LaPorte City, Iowa, one of the best known of the great farmers of the Northwest, writes that Alkavis cured him of Dropsy and Kidney Disease of six years' standing, and at the age of sixty-one, he is in better health than for years.

Among the many ladies who testify to Alkavis, not only in the above diseases, but in many cases in disorders peculiar to womanhood, are Mrs. C. C. Fowler, Locktown, N. J.; Miss M. E. Malin, Buel, Ky.; Mrs. L. D. Fegely, Lancaster, Ills.; Mrs. Phebe J. Spencer, Rosa, South Dakota; Mrs. Alice Evans, of Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. James Young, of Kent, Ohio, the last of whom had been under the care of no less than six doctors without avail and was finally cured by Alkavis. The testimony from all quarters as to this new remedy is numerous, and its cures are really wonderful.

So far, the Church Kidney Cure Company, of No. 409 Fourth Avenue, New York City, are the only importers of Alkavis, and they are so anxious to prove its great value that they will send a Large Case by mail free to Every Reader of THE FARM AND FIRESIDE, who is a sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Cystitis, Gravel, Female Complaints, Irregularities, or other afflictions due to improper action of the Kidneys. All readers who are sufferers should send their names and address to the company and receive the Large Case by mail free. To prove its wonderful curative powers it is sent to you entirely free.



THE KAVA-KAVA SHRUB
(*Piper Methysticum*.)



Mr. J. N. Hood,
Midway, Delaware.



Mrs. C. C. Fowler,
Locktown, New Jersey.

Our Farm.

A FARMERS' CLUB.

In this day of lodges, clubs and societies, the man without membership in some trade, political, beneficial or secret order certainly remains outside the pale from choice, as there is some organization which exactly falls in with his views and condition in life. In this growth of the club spirit, which becomes more and more noticeably a feature of American life, and finds expression through all gradations, from the Associated Order of Boot-blacks to the Millionaire Club of the United States Senate, the American farmer is not behind his fellow-citizens of other walks of life. His own calling gives him abundant opportunity for special organization, and in recent years some of his societies and orders have assumed an importance that have carried their influence far beyond what might be considered the natural field for an agricultural organization. The Grange, with its co-operative features, has exerted a lasting and an elevating influence in shaping rural life. The M. B. A. at one time upset calculations of politicians in three or four states and changed the complexion of the Illinois representation in the United States Senate. At a later day the Farmers' Alliance overthrew all political parties in at least two states, absorbed a great party in others, elected United States senators, governors, congressmen, state legislatures, judges, and in fact became the ruling power, either by independent strength or by co-operation with regular political organizations, over territory enough to make it a leading factor for a time in national politics. These examples show the extent to which the club spirit affects the American farmer, his ability to unite and stand together, and give a striking idea of the influence he may wield.

The most remarkable farmers' organization in this country, or in the world, for that matter, is one that probably not one man in a hundred thousand ever heard of. In point of numbers it is small. On January 1st of this year its total membership was only sixty, yet should it in any of its deliberations agree upon a given course of action, to be supported by its members as a body and as individuals, its influence would be sufficiently potent to carry its point almost regardless of opposition. Just sixty plain, simple farmers, who meet to discuss questions affecting their farms and their positions as tillers of the soil in this busy world. When the annual meeting of this organization is held, and all members are present to talk over crops, and stock, and markets, the price of wheat, the weather, and to discuss the time-honored question as to whether potatoes should be planted in the dark of the moon, and whether pork shrinks more if killed in the first quarter or the last quarter, there would be gathered inside its hall-room more of brains, more of business sagacity, more of success in life than can be boasted of, perhaps, by any other club or organization in this country. Should it decide that nature made a mistake in assigning the strawberry to June, or the peach to August, in making the banana at home in the tropics and the orange in Florida, and having reached this decision, desire a reversal of nature's order, with strawberries and peaches in January, and bananas and oranges from Long Island, nature would bow before the greater power of this small club of farmers, and the products desired would be forthcoming.

This unique club calls itself the Farmers of New York, and its official seal is the head of a mild-eyed Jersey cow surrounded by a broad belt upon which appears the name of the club, a seal at once simple and bucolic and in entire keeping with the pastoral character of the club membership. Verbatim reports of its meetings and discussions are published, printed upon vellum, wide margins, untrimmed edges, regular edition de luxe; nor is this a matter of extravagance, as it makes certain the filing in libraries, that would reject any ordinary specimen of typographic art, the valuable records and discussions which appear within the covers. Besides, the club treasury is in a position to stand the drain, and the matter of ability is important when we wish to settle the question of extravagance.

Among the better known of the members of this club, farmers who have been heard of north of Fulton market and who, should they stroll up-town after disposing of their loads of produce, are in no danger of buying gold bricks or betting upon ability to open locks held by plausible strangers, are Chauncey M. Depew, Charles S. Fairchild, J. Pierpont Morgan, Levi P. Morton, Wm. Rockefeller, Whitelaw Reid, H. McK. Twombly, Wm. K. Vanderbilt, W. Seward

Webb, LeGrand B. Cannon, Joseph H. Choate, A. J. Cassett, and forty-eight other honest and successful tillers of the soil who have been forehanded enough to be unburdened by farm mortgages. Death has recently invaded the ranks, removing such shining marks as Charles A. Dana and Theodore S. Havemeyer. This club settles in the affirmative the question of whether farming pays, for in spite of low prices and general complaint of hard times the members have an average credit at the bank of at least \$10,000,000 each, and the total of their savings from thrift, early rising and careful and judicious labor each in his own field, aggregates enough to pay off the public debt and have left enough to live upon in fair comfort.

It must not be assumed that this is merely a social club, and that these distinguished and wealthy men have adopted the name without being strictly entitled to it. They are each and every one actually engaged in some branch of farming, and are perhaps as familiar with watering stock as with watering stocks. Some may call it a fad, but their evident personal knowledge and study of matters agricultural, as disclosed by the printed records of their discussions, show that in the multitude of cares and details of the great business interests under their charge they yet find time to keep abreast of the times in matters concerning farming as a calling. No more striking example can be found of the natural love of man for mother earth than is shown by these of her children who, burdened with responsibilities and able to afford any form of pleasure or relaxation which caprice can suggest, secure rest of mind and body by studying nature and nature's laws on the farm. The association together of such men in such a club is not a caricature, not a parody on words, but a thing that should be both pleasing and helpful to that other great body of farmers whose lives are bound up in the fields. These men, with the wealth, the talent and the inclination to work out nature's secrets by efforts and experiments which they can afford, may produce results which shall be of great and permanent good to agriculture. It would be difficult to measure the volume of good to the dairy interests of New York which has originated in the magnificent collection of Guernsey cattle which Governor Morton has built up. The Havemeyer stock-farm has done its share toward building up our horse blood, and Charles A. Dana's study of orchids has given many a hard-working florist a suggestion which meant success and money to him.

The meetings of this club are quite as unique as its existence. Three are held each year, each being the occasion of a dinner, and to each is invited one or more experts in some particular specialty of agriculture. The guest is expected to open the discussion after coffee and cigars have appeared, and in the open discussion which follows the address the various members take part. Let no one imagine that these men who manage great railroads, who are the master-hands that move the chessmen in the game of the world's commerce, control banks, make financial policies and direct the great journals that mold public opinion, are unable to intelligently discuss the practical questions that come before them. Occasionally they question and corner the expert who is the guest of the evening, and it is safe to say that their knowledge of the subject under discussion, whether it be fruit-raising, blooded stock, or potato-growing, is fully equal to that displayed in the average farmers' club of the same size.

At the meeting in January of this year the subject for discussion was "the pig." In his talk the invited guest, a specialist in hog-breeding, made a slip in one of his statements, and Mr. Theodore Havemeyer caught him up at once, and forced questions home until the expert was forced to admit his error. The bacon question seemed to appeal strongly to the gastronomic feelings of the diners, as several pages are taken up in the annual report in presenting the touching recollections which various members held regarding some particularly choice morsel of bacon that had at some time passed their palates. Mr. Havemeyer related an incident which showed that unlike so many of the farmers of the country he had no confidence in cures for hog-cholera, saying that when he had recently found a sick hog he had it killed and taken out; but the commercial spirit was also plainly apparent when he further declared that he then sold the rest of the pigs from the pen for \$2,000. What became of the men who bought those pigs from an infected pen he fails to relate. This little bit of choice dialogue illustrates the character of the discussion:

Mr. Sturgis—"Did you ever have any

trouble with the sows eating their young pigs?"

Mr. Hensstis—"No."

Mr. Havemeyer—"We always dose them with saltpeter."

This club may be a fad, but it is one to be encouraged. It awakens and keeps alive an interest in agricultural progress among men who can afford to bear the burden of the experiments needed to bring out the possibilities of American agriculture. But a club of practical farmers who are millionaires as well is unique.

B. W. SNOW.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM MINNESOTA.—Much grain is being sold. The freight-trains are kept busy night and day. Wheat is selling for 75 cents a bushel, a good price considering the quality; oats, 13 to 15 cents; barley, 14 to 15 cents; corn, 15 cents; flax, 95 cents. Some of the young men here have the Klondike fever. Minnesota is good enough for me. J. L. Greer, Minn.

As you sit by your warm fire on cold winter nights, has it ever occurred to you that your horses, hens, cows, and other stock may be suffering from the cold?

Don't you know that your chickens will grow faster, that your hens will lay more eggs, your cows require less grain, and will give more milk if kept warm and comfortable; that your horses will be more active and do more work if protected from the cold?

You ask what will keep the cold out? We advise you to cover the sides and roofs of your outbuildings with *Neponset Waterproof Red Rope Fabric*. It is very inexpensive,—costs only one cent per square foot at the factory, including nails and tin caps for putting it on,—and it is as wind-proof, water-proof, and frost-proof as shingles or clapboards. *Neponset* must not be confounded with ordinary tarred and building paper which quickly rots when exposed to the weather.

Neponset Black Building Paper, for inside lining, is water and air tight, and very inexpensive. Your boy can put it on.

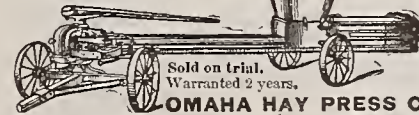


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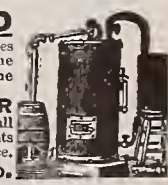
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Large, perfect shape vigorous, prolific, drought-resisting. Best varieties **Strawberry Plants**; also **Asparagus Roots, Peaches, Apples and Plum Trees**. Peaches grown from natural seed in section free from scale and yellows. Write for latest catalog—FREE. **HARRISON'S NURSERIES, Berlin, Md.**

THOMPSON'S BANNER ROOT CUTTER.

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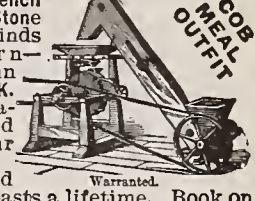
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Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammondon, New Jersey.

HATCHING EARLY PULLETS.

Do not allow the hens to sit before Christmas. Those who use pullets every year instead of hens hatch them early in the season, but this is an important matter, as they must not be hatched too early or too late. When a pullet is hatched too early she is really a late-hatched chick of the previous year, and will molt in the fall of her first year the same as an old hen. To explain this, which is very important for all to know, especially the inexperienced, it may be stated that a pullet takes the whole of her first year to grow; that is, she is not considered fully matured until she is a year old. During the period of her growth of the first year she is constantly renewing feathers, from the down of the chick to the complete plumage of the adult; hence, when her growth is completed she has really just finished molting and should not molt again until the following year, doing duty in the meantime as a layer. But nature seems to prepare all fowls for the cold season by removing the old feathers for new ones, as a protection, the process being known as molting. If the pullet is hatched too early, and completes her growth in six or eight months, as sometimes happens when she has been forced in growth or is one of a family of the small breeds, she will come into the fall season as a hen and molt, thus losing time; but if not hatched too early, and she finishes her growth just on the approach of winter, she escapes molting. For instance, if the eggs for hatching are placed under hens in January the chicks will come out about February, as it requires three weeks to hatch them. If the pullet matures in eight months she will have finished her molting in October, which is an excellent time; but if she is of a small and quick-maturing breed she may be ready by August, and if so she is liable to molt. The advice intended to be given is to mate all hens that are kept for breeding purposes with Light Brahma or Cochins males, if early pullets are desired in February or before the 15th of March. If hatching is to be done so that the pullets can be out in April, use Plymouth Rock, Wyandotte or Langshan males. After that time, for May pullets use Langshan males. By following these rules the farmer will save ten times or more the cost of the males purchased for this purpose.

BUYING AND SELLING EGGS.

Going into the egg business by buying eggs and selling them is a risk which is not usually considered in advance, if the object is to sell only "strictly fresh eggs." The beginner goes out among the farmers and buys where he believes he can best get fresh eggs, for he is honest and intends to build up a reputation, and thus secure a permanent trade. Unfortunately, the farmer is just the one who cares but little for fowls and collects eggs wherever the hens happen to lay. He may come across a nest full of eggs in some out-of-the-way place, but it is all the same to him, for "eggs are eggs," and if he can dispose of them at a good price he cares but little whether the city customer is pleased or not. But the dealer who buys from the farmer to sell again has to meet all complaints, and that is a disagreeable thing about the business. Customers do not know anything about where he procures them, and if they pay him his price they expect good service. No one can buy eggs to sell again unless he is supported by careful farmers. For that reason everyone who goes into the egg business should endeavor to have his own hens and insure a lasting trade.

DIFFICULTIES WITH TURKEYS.

Turkeys are subject to roup, and they also become lame from no apparent cause. Reflection will make plain the fact that turkeys have a severe trial in winter. Because they naturally roost high, seeking the limbs of trees, it is supposed that such locations are the most suitable, but the turkey would take better care of itself if it knew how. It does not understand that it has any interest in buildings or

shelter, and must be taught how to seek warmer roosting-places than the tree-limbs. To alight from high limbs the turkey is compelled to strike the ground with a heavy weight on its legs, and as this is repeated daily the birds soon become lame. The cold winds often cause frosted feet, and the birds become also blind and have swollen eyes. The indication of blindness and swollen eyes is that of roup, due to exposure to cold winds. By confining the turkeys in a building having high roosts, and feeding them early in the morning and late at night in the building for a week, they will forget the tree-tops and roost under shelter. When roup gets into a flock of turkeys they might as well be destroyed at once, as they seldom recover.

WINTER CHICKS.

During this cold weather the question is whether to prevent hens from sitting or allow them to hatch a brood. The decision depends entirely on how one is fixed for raising the chicks. If there is a warm room, with sunlight, and the chicks are looked after three or four times a day, it will pay well to allow the hens to sit and hatch out broods. Winter chicks pay as well as winter eggs. To demonstrate this fact it may be stated that to raise a chick to the weight of one and one half pounds will cost only eight cents for the food. If a hen raises six chicks, they should sell for from twenty-five to forty cents a pound, in March or April, according to quality and circumstances; but allowing only twenty cents a pound (a very low price for good broilers in winter), each chick will bring thirty cents, or twenty-two cents above the cost of the food, making \$1.32 profit for a brood of six, without deducting the cost of the eggs used for hatching. More frequently good chicks bring fifty cents each. The hen will consequently pay as well as a sitter as she would as a layer, but the fact must be kept in view that it is the work, care, warmth and attention to their comfort that will enable one to make the profit from chicks.

GREEN BONES.

Cut bone is the green bone from the butcher that has been cut with a bone-cutter. It is different from ground bone, as fresh bone cannot easily be ground, for which reason a cutter is used. These cutters are made for the purpose, and sell for from \$5 to \$10, being used by hand. As a bone is a hard and tough substance, the cutter is only intended to enable the operator to cut a sufficiency at one time for a small flock, which can be done in a few minutes. For large numbers the cutters are worked by horse or steam power. One ounce of cut meat and bone for a hen once a day is the proper quantity to give, using the cut bone as a full meal, giving nothing else with it.

LEGHORNS IN WINTER.

There is an objection to Leghorns as winter layers, it being urged against them that their combs and wattles become frozen. Such may happen if they are exposed to cold winds, but there are hundreds of farmers who have kept Leghorns in winter very successfully. It is but right to expect that no fowls should be exposed, and such should not be considered in the matter, as the keeping of any breed should be for the best results. Leghorns are nervous, however, and object to confinement, but if kept busy they will not only lay in winter but come out in the spring fully as ready for spring operations as other breeds.

CROSSING IS INJURIOUS.

Nine out of ten farmers who use the pure breeds will keep them the first, and perhaps the second, year with pride, not permitting any admixture; but in order to avoid inbreeding the farmer must procure new males from somewhere, and then his troubles begin, for the first idea that comes up is, why not cross the breeds? If there are two breeds kept the result will nearly always be to cross them. Just as soon as the farmer decides to cross he begins on the down grade, as crossing destroys the purity of the breeds and is also of no advantage, as the best breeds are the result of judicious crossing and careful selection. The supposition is that by crossing the breeds the offspring will possess greater vigor and combine the good

qualities of both parents. The fact is that it destroys the qualities desired, the offspring not being equal to either parent, while the gain in vigor is only imaginary. Crossing cannot add anything to a flock. One cannot increase the value of gold by adding silver to it, and one might as well use the gold in its purity as to mix it with baser metals.

LEAVES AND CUT STRAW.

There is one point of advantage in the use of cut straw or leaves which largely influences laying in winter, and that is the warmth retained in the poultry-house. It is not that these materially create warmth, but they keep the winds from coming in along the floor, and as they also absorb dampness they prevent the settling of moisture on the walls. Let any one go into a stable or stall that has four or five inches or more of leaves on the floor, and the stall will be found warmer and more comfortable than one having the floor bare.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

The Standard.—A. G. R. Calhoun, Ill., writes: "When will the new or revised standard of pure breeds be issued?"

REPLY:—During 1898, probably about July. It is revised every five years.

Roup.—J. M. G., Danby, Mich., writes: "Is there any remedy for roup? The disease has spread in my flock and the fowls are rapidly dying off."

REPLY:—There is no sure cure. When roup becomes contagious the only remedy is to destroy the entire flock and thoroughly disinfect the premises.

Meat for Poultry.—S. M., Troyton, Ohio, writes: "How much meat should a dozen fowls receive every day?"

REPLY:—It depends on the kind of food allowed. An ounce of lean meat is the estimate for a hen one day, but large hens require about an ounce and one half. Meat may be given in place of grain, with profit.

Feeding.—J. L. S., Chatham, Minn., writes: "Give a combination food suitable for Leghorns in winter, the fowls being confined in yards."

REPLY:—Leghorns require exercise. A mixture of cut clover, scalded, sprinkled with bran, as a light meal in the morning, and corn or wheat at night, will be found excellent. Give lean meat or cut bone every other day in place of the clover.

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Queries.

—READ THIS NOTICE.—

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should inclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query, in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Early Potatoes.—A. F., Bloomfield, Iowa. For a first-class early potato I have found none superior to Early Ohio. Where the conditions are right this is a good yielder, and gives tubers for the table or market a week or more in advance of any other good sort I know of. Try other new varieties of this type; also the Novee, the Early Andes, etc.

Coreless Apples.—C. Y., Lisbon, Iowa. writes: "In Volume 19, No. 22, you give an account of a coreless apple. Can you give me address of the owner? I would like to propagate that winter variety."

REPLY BY T. GREINER:—I have heard of this apple, but considering it a freak, rather than of especial value, have kept no record of it. Possibly one or the other among our readers may be able to give the desired information.

Coal Ashes.—M. S. C., Hammond, Wis., writes: "A family that burns coal wishes to know if the ashes would be good to spread on the garden."

REPLY BY T. GREINER:—The only real plant-food that we can expect to find in coal ashes owe their presence therein to the wood that may have been used for kindling the fires, or perhaps to some waste bones that have been disposed of by being thrown into the coal-scuttle. Yet, even if there were no plant-foods in coal ashes, we would continue our practice to spread them on the garden and small fruit patches for the sake of improving the manurial texture of the soil; in other words, in making it more porous and also more retentive of moisture. Coal ashes usually have wholesome effects upon plant-growth chiefly for these reasons.

Needs Drainage.—H. E. S., Manteno, Ill., writes: "On my farm I have about twenty acres of pasture-land that produces very poor grass on account of alkali in the soil, and which is very lumpy and springy. I want to plow it up and crop it. What can I do to overcome the alkali? What are the best crops to raise on newly broken sod-land that is soft and springy?"

REPLY:—From your description, which is incomplete, we think the first thing to be done is to have that land tile-drained. The surplus water from rainfall flowing away through the tile-drains will soon remove the excess of alkali. After the removal of surplus water from the soil the land can be plowed and leveled and made ready for a meadow or a good pasture. After draining and plowing seed it down with a mixture of timothy, redtop and blue-grass. A few years later it will be ready for grain crops.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Severe Digestive Disorder.—W. J. N., State Center, Iowa. The severe digestive disorder of your cow probably has been caused by allowing her to eat the afterbirth. When this reaches you she either has recovered or is dead.

Throws Head Up and Down.—M. V., Harris, Kan. There is probably something wrong with the ear of your mare, inside or out. Have it closely examined by a veterinarian. So-called rickets, or rachitis, is out of the question. Removing the cause constitutes the treatment.

A Strange Disease.—J. B., Hernandez, Cal. What you describe, indeed must be a strange disease. Whether it is new is another question. Such a case requires a careful and painstaking examination and investigation before any reliable diagnosis can be made by anybody.

Twin Calves.—C. W., Fort Klamath, Oreg.—It is claimed that of twin calves of different sex usually one of them, either the male or female, will be barren. As the male of such twins is seldom kept for breeding, it is difficult to decide whether this claim is based only upon a few observations, or holds good in a majority of all cases as far as the male is concerned.

So-called Sweeny.—K. A. A., Kirk, Neb.—If your horse is a young animal, exempt the same from work, feed a sufficiency of good, nutritious food, and allow him all the voluntary exercise he is willing to take. If you do this, in about six to eight months the shoulder will again present a normal condition, unless it be that a restoration has been made impossible by quackery.

Foot-rot.—G. W., Gowrie, Ia.—Have your cows, but particularly their feet, thoroughly cleaned, then with a sharp hoof-knife have all loose and decayed horn removed; this done, dress the sores, particularly in the cleft between the hoofs, with absorbent cotton saturated with a mixture of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, and olive-oil, three parts; renew this dressing morning and evening and keep the cows on a clean and dry floor. Unless the degeneration is already too extensive and too deep-seated, you will with this treatment soon effect improvement, and in a short time a cure, provided you keep the cows out of mud and manure.

Bleeds from the Nose.—L. J. D., Purdy, Mo. The frequent bleeding from the nose of your cow is probably caused by the presence of a morbid growth (possibly a sarcoma) in the nasal cavity or in one of the sinuses, frontal or maxillary. It is also possible, but

hardly probable, that the bleeding is caused by a foreign body which in some way has found an entrance into the nasal cavity, has become lodged there and is constantly irritating the mucous membrane. Have your cow examined by a veterinarian, and if the result of the examination shows that the cause of the bleeding, etc., can be removed, a cure is possible, but if the cause cannot be removed, then any treatment is out of the question.

Bitter and Moldy Milk.—H. S. G., Quincy, Oregon. Such milk as you describe does not owe its bad qualities to any sickness, morbid or abnormal condition in the cow, but to a contamination after it has been drawn. The cause, therefore, must be looked for either in the premises, the milking utensils or the handling. The remedy, of course, consists in removing the causes. It is possible that the contamination takes place while the milk is drawn from the udder.

Chronic Inflammation of the Bladder.—C. P. H., Stockton, Mo. What you describe appears to be a chronic inflammation of the bladder. It is often caused by the presence of a stone, a concrement, or so-called gravel in the bladder, but may also be produced by other abnormal conditions and morbid processes capable of causing, directly or indirectly, a constant irritation of the mucous membrane of the bladder. Therefore, as a treatment cannot be attended with success without first removing the cause or causes, I have to advise you to have your mare examined by a competent veterinarian.

Got Kicked.—S. E. R., Fredonia, Kan.—Did it ever occur to you that such sharp and irritating substances as turpentine and hot vinegar and salt, applied to a fresh sore would necessarily increase the pain, the swelling and the lameness, and also very much the morbid process? If you had given your mule strict rest and had applied cold water to the sore hock for about twenty-four hours, pain, soreness and swelling would soon have disappeared and your mule, long before this, would have been a well animal. If you keep up your irritating treatment you have the best prospect of making your mule a worthless cripple, or if you should fail in this, you surely will succeed in making the swelling permanent. The more fuel you add to the flame the longer the fire will burn. Of course, for the cold-water treatment it is too late now, but if you discontinue your irritating treatment the lameness may yet disappear and then it will be time to reduce the swelling by means of bandages during the night and exercise during the day.

Numerous Questions.—J. F. M., Tillamook, Oreg. 1. Your cow suffers from nymphomania and probably has diseased ovaries. Have her spayed and then fatten her for beef, unless she should prove to be tuberculous. 2. Subject your cow that coughs and failed in milk to the tuberculin test. 3. Milk your cow that lets the milk go just before milking-time three or four times a day instead of twice. 4. If you cut the teats of a "hard-milking" cow you will surely spoil her teats altogether. The best remedy, as far as there is any, is very vigorous milking. 5. If you want to have your cows deborned, have the operation performed by somebody who is familiar with the anatomy of the parts involved and knows how to dress the wound and how to stop the bleeding. There is danger if the operation is performed in a crude and bungling manner. 6. Milk your cow crosswise and she, very likely, will let down the milk, provided the person who does the milking is not considered by her as her enemy. 7. Your hogs have lung-worms in the ramifications of the bronchial tubes. If you had more closely examined the lumps of whitish mucus which you found at a post-mortem examination in the bronchial tubes, you would have found whole convolutions of small, thread-like worms. Your hogs, undoubtedly, picked up the worm-hood in low and wet places, or in stagnant pools of water. There is no remedy and the prevention consists in keeping swine, but particularly pigs, away from places in which the worm-hood exists. 8. What you mistook for synovia of the joint (joint-water) was synovia from the sheath of a tendon. Dress the remaining sore with iodoform and a good bandage. Renew dressing twice a day. 9. Consult an encyclopedia.

A Fistula.—A. P. H., Chandlerville, Ill., G. W. B., Stevenson, Conn., J. C. C., West Branch, Iowa, and J. L. B., Chastown, Ohio. The descriptions you give clearly indicate the presence of a fistula, but as none of you said anything about the direction, depth and extent of the fistulous canal, or canals, and about the parts or tissues that have become affected by the morbid process, I can only give a few general directions in regard to treatment. A fistula must first be carefully probed to ascertain the direction, depth and extent of the fistulous canal, or canals, (in some cases there are more than one), and to learn what parts and tissues are diseased or yet healthy. After all this has been ascertained, absolutely free exit must be procured for exudates and pus, either by splitting open every fistulous canal in such a way as to make the external opening lower than the end of the fistulous canal in the tissues, or where for one reason or another this is not advisable, by making one or more lower openings connected with the lowest point of the canal or canals in such a way as to secure perfect drainage from every part of the fistula. This done, all the callous and degenerated tissue, which has lost its vitality or has become permeated by pus-producing bacteria, must either be removed by means of the surgical knife, or be destroyed by means of caustics. Which one of these two methods deserves preference depends upon the location of the fistula, the depth of the fistulous canals, the tissues involved and upon other conditions. But if all this has been successfully accomplished, the former fistula has been changed to a fresh wound and is easily brought to healing if only protected and kept aseptic. Still, the successful treatment of almost every fistula requires considerable skill, good judgment, strict attention and a great deal of patience, therefore one not a veterinarian seldom succeeds, and I most decidedly advise all of you to have your animals treated by a competent veterinarian.

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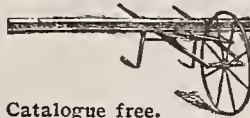
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Our Fireside.

LULLABY.

Tired of play, my little boy
One evening climbed my knee.
Nestling in my arms, he said:
"Please sing a song to me.
Don't sing the song you always sing.
Sing one I've never heard."
I pressed his velvet cheek to mine
And answered not a word.
But in the twilight soft and dim,
I sang this little song to him:

Rest, little curly head, rest on my arm,
Droop, weary lids, over eyes of gray,
God's holy angels will keep thee from harm
Through the dark night as well as the day.
Rest thee, my baby, with never a care
Thy slumber to mar or thy waking to share.

Rest, little curly head, happy and free,
Sweet be thy dreaming the whole night long;
The darkness can hold no terrors for thee
Who know not the meaning of right or of wrong.
Rest, little curly head, leave him who sings
To mourn the regrets which experience brings.

Sleep, little curly head, sleep on my breast,
The daylight is fading and playtime is o'er;
The song-bird that woke thee has gone to its nest
And, save in thy dreams, will call thee no more.
Sleep, little curly head, dark fall the night,
Haste thee to dreamland where pathways are bright.

Sleep, little curly head, close to my heart,
No thought of the morrow disturbs thy repose,
No haunting visions will cause thee to start—
Thou'st yet to discover the thorn on the rose.
Sleep, little curly head, leave him who sings
To mourn the regrets which experience brings.
—Branch Wilton.

THE ROAD COMMISSIONER

BY ANNIE M. BURKE.
CHAPTER V.

NE day not long before the election, Ollie was out working on the road. There were two other young men with him, and they were putting in a culvert which had been washed out by spring rains. It was still very muddy, and the boys pronounced it a "mean job," but attacked it bravely, none the less, and teased and "guyed" each other cheerfully all the while.

It was a much-traveled road they were working on. To-day a good many people drove past them as they worked, and some stopped a few minutes to chat. It was near the end of the afternoon and the culvert was nearly finished, when one of Ollie's companions looked up suddenly and saw a huggy approaching. It was a big, heavy huggy, with a bay horse attached, and he immediately recognized it.

"There comes one of the Franklin girls!" he said.

Ollie looked up. He instantly knew which one of the Franklin girls it was. It was the slim, pale one with the grave, pretty little face; it was Ernestine! But one of the other boys had now recognized her, also.

"It's Ernestine," he said. "It's Ferguson's sweetheart, don't you know?"

"It's the girl that used to be Ferguson's sweetheart, you mean," said the other, with a sly look at Ollie.

Ollie made no reply to this, but he was secretly annoyed. He knew that people were saying that he had lost his sweetheart by running against her father in the township election. For his part, he had no fear of losing Ernestine. He felt sure of her. He had long suspected that she liked him, and he did not believe that the election or anything else could make her "go back on him." He had seen her last that night at the sociable, and he remembered how he had got her to say that she did not agree with her father in what he said that night on the porch. Just now, as she should drive by, he meant to speak to her in his best style, and show these fellows how nicely she would speak back again.

As Ernestine approached she was paler than usual, there were blue shadows under her eyes, and she looked as if she had been ill. The two young people had been separated, but one thing was plain to everyone, and that was that all the suffering of the separation had been on one side—the side of the pale little Ernestine. There were no signs of illness about Ollie. He was just as light-hearted as ever, and the flush of health and happiness colored his bronzed cheek. He wore rubber boots, jean pants and a big straw hat, all of which were pretty well bespattered with mud, but they did not conceal his natural grace and beauty in the least. And no society beau ever wore a smile more winning, more debonaire than Ollie did when

he stepped forward and said, "Good afternoon, Ernestine!"

Ernestine made no reply, but looked straight ahead of her. Ollie, thinking she might not have heard, spoke again.

"How do you do, Ernestine?" he said, distinctly.

Still she would not reply, but looked straight ahead at her horse's ears. Ollie stepped back stung. Never had he been so cut before. One of the boys—he was a Ridger—tittered audibly when the buggy was past. Ollie looked at him once. That was enough. The Ridger was a puny youth, and Ollie was big and very fierce. There was no more tittering.

The rest of the work at the culvert was done nearly in silence. Ollie, when it was finished, shouldered his spade and walked away alone. He was full of bitterness toward Ernestine. How could she—how dared she cut him so? It was all her father's fault, of course—he understood that. Her father had put her up to it.

He thought of election day which was now near at hand. He hoped earnestly that he might win. Hitherto he had not cared so much, but now—he would give anything to beat old Franklin. Till late in the night he thought upon it. All the next day and the next he dwelt upon Ernestine and the slight she had given him. Then the fourth day was election day.

In the meantime those two boys who had worked with Ollie on the culvert that day, were telling all around to everyone about Ernestine slighting Ollie. Old Franklin had made his girl give young Ferguson the mitten just out of spite, people were saying. Everybody seemed to put the blame just where it belonged—with Mr. Franklin, and not with Ernestine at all. And it might be remarked just here that the little incident on the road that afternoon did not help Mr. Franklin any on election day. It was not fair play to the young fellow, people said. He had a perfect right to run for road commissioner, and Mr. Franklin was not doing right in putting in between the two young people. Be it remembered, also, that Ernestine's father could ill afford to lose any of his popularity just now, for he had a most dangerous opponent. Ollie was exceedingly well liked on his own side of the township, and had an alarmingly large following on the other side. Mr. Franklin had need to be careful if the Ridger side did not have the greater number of voters.

But the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April came, and that was election day.

They were yet quite a distance from the post-office when they heard a mighty yell go up from that building. The boys started, then stopped, then hurried forward again.

"They've got 'em counted! They've got the votes counted! They know who's in!" they said to each other, excitedly, as they hurried along.

Another yell of triumph went up and another. The boys strained their ears listening to it, but, try as they would, they could not make out whether it was from Ridge throats or Creek throats.

"I bet the Ridgers have got it!" one pessimistic fellow said. "Sounds to me like that was their hollerin'."

"You can't tell nothing from that," another said. "I've an idea Ollie's got it!"

They were yet some distance from the post-office, but they could see the light from its broad windows shining out into the road. Suddenly a man, yelling and hurrahing, hurst out of the post-office door, and pranced about on the platform outside. One foot was high in the air, and he was waving his hat wildly. The boys coming up the road instantly recognized his figure against the windows. It was Sharkey, "Ferguson's manager," as he was called.

A half smothered yell went up from the boys. "We've got it! You're in, Ollie, you're in!" they panted. "That's Sharkey, and he wouldn't be yelling if the Creekers were beat! No, Sharkey wouldn't yell! We've got it, Ollie!"

In another minute they were at the door. The store where the post-office was kept was full of men and all were talking. Ollie was instantly siezed and hoisted and lifted about and banged and slapped and pommelled mercilessly. He knew he was elected, or thought he must be, but by how many votes or by how great a majority he could not tell for some time. At last he got it out of Sharkey.

"Nineteen votes ahead of your ticket, Ollie!" he declared. "Nineteen votes! Ole Franklin's completely dolloped—not a sign of him left! The Ridgers got the collector an' 'sessor an' most of the other offices, but we got the road commissioner! It was all we cared for! It was all they cared for, too, but they missed it! Hurrah for Poplar Creek! We'll have the new bridges an' grading an' new roads, now! Yes, we'll have 'em! You're the man, Ollie! I knew you were the one to put up! I knew you'd run!"

For two hours Ollie "stood treat," passing around the cigars and oranges, and for two hours he endured the congratulatory slaps

so hitter and angry toward her now that he had so completely heated her father in the election.

The singing-school was just closed, and the young people were starting home when he reached the schoolhouse. Ollie stepped back into the darkness near the door and watched them pass out. Children, racing and chasing each other, came first, then the grown-up children—girls with heads and girls without, and boys and young men of all descriptions followed. At last when the Franklin crowd were heard approaching Ollie's heart began beating. Ruthie and Maimie came out first with a hold of hands, then Deb and Mollie and Jen and Jessie, with two or three young men in their midst. Ollie watched for Ernestine. At last she came, and there was a strange man walking close beside her. Ollie started and peered at them. Yes, Ernestine had her hand on his arm. He was seeing her home!

He could scarcely believe his eyes. It wasn't possible! Ernestine wasn't letting another fellow go with her already! Unconsciously he began following them at a little distance. The young man was slim with light hair and stooping shoulders. He was carefully dressed and had a refined look. The light was dim and only the man's back was visible, but even with what little he could see Ollie was sure the stranger was no farmer. Whoever might he be, anyway? And how could Ernestine—how could she?

He dared not follow them far, and when he reached the corner was obliged to turn down the road in the direction of his own home. He was confused and dazed. Ernestine with another fellow! He had never thought of such a thing! He had felt so sure of her! They had been separated, of course, and her father would not let her speak to him—this election business was to blame for that! But as to her deserting him and taking another fellow in his place—he had never dreamed of it! It was a long time, two or three months, perhaps, since he had become convinced that Ernestine cared a great deal of him. Grave and composed as she was he had seen her betray herself a dozen times, or thought he had. Could it be that he had been mistaken?

He went home and spent a hard night. The new road commissioner, the triumphant candidate who had overjoyed the Creek people with his success did not go to sleep that night gloating over his victory. Indeed, he scarcely thought of it, and as for sleep—he could hardly sleep any at all for thinking of his faithless sweetheart and her desertion of him.

His life had been an easy one.

This was his first trouble, and he took it hard. Four days of real suffering followed. Then it was Sunday, and he went to church. It was the church where the Franklins attended, too; for the Ridge people and the Creek people in Poplar Grove township had one church. This morning the usual preacher was absent and a stranger occupied the pulpit. He was a slim young man with stooping shoulders and light hair. The moment Ollie got a view of his back he instantly recognized him. He was the man who had walked home with Ernestine the night of election day. From a gossiping youth beside him he learned that the stranger was a returned missionary who, though long absent, had been born and reared in Poplar Grove, and who still had many friends in the township. He had been in South America for four years, but finding the climate too hard for his health, he had returned to stay, and had already engaged to take a pulpit and charge in a neighboring county.

After all this information the youth added that Mr. White, as his name was, was staying "mostly at the Franklin's" while in the neighborhood. This sunk

into Ollie's heart; "Staying mostly at the Franklin's." Staying where Ernestine was!

In the evening Ollie again went to church, and again the returned missionary occupied the pulpit. He did not preach to-night, but merely talked to them about his experience in South America. He told them in particular of one time when he had come very near dying of a fever, and of another time when he had been stoned by the natives for distributing tracts. Ollie listened with a feeling of dislike and hatred that he had never felt for a preacher before, and when the man told of the hard fever he had come through, Ollie earnestly wished that it had taken him.

When the meeting was over he again stood in the darkness outside the door to watch the Franklin girls come out. As before Ruthie and Maimie came first. When Deb reached the door a young man stepped up to her and whispered something in her ear. She immediately put her hand in his arm, and they walked away together. When Mollie approached the door this performance was repeated; then Jen and Jessie started homeward together. After that Ollie watched for



"TELL ME WHAT ERNESTINE SAID," HE DEMANDED.

The voting was done in an empty building which stood beside the post-office, and which had once been a drug store. One farmer after another came along and deposited his ballot. Some of them came before twelve, some came during the noon resting-hour, and others came on near quitting-time. It was about three in the afternoon when Ollie unhitched from the seeder and tied his horses to the fence. He walked part way across lots and part way on the muddy road. The voting was done by the secret ballot-system and there was no excited crowd around the polls. Ollie cast his ballot very quietly, and went away again. It was in the evening that the excitement was, in the evening when the polls were closed and when the votes were being counted, and when every excited voter in the township came in to find which way the election had gone.

A half dozen of Ollie's friends called for him about dusk. He joined them and they went along the road together, discussing which way certain men probably voted, and calculated upon the number of votes each candidate possibly got.

and poundings, and had the greatness of his triumph dimmed in his ears. It was jolly and glorious at first, but he got weary of it, and his shoulders were sore. He was glad when it was all over, and the people began to move away from the post-office. He slipped out the back door himself, for he did not want any companions just now. He wanted to be alone to rest and to think. Then there was something else he wanted.

Down the road a little distance they were holding singing-school in the schoolhouse, it being the regular night for that meeting. There would not likely be many young men at the singing to-night on account of the election, but there would be girls there—probably the Franklin girls would be there, and he wanted to see them. Not to speak to them or meet them at all, but just to look at them—to look at Ernestine, in fact, and to feel himself somewhere near her again. After the shameless way she had cut him in the road that day, of course, he would not want to speak to her. But he did want to be near her again and to look upon her pale, pretty little face. Somehow he did not feel quite

Ernestine to appear. She appeared, and she was already on the arm of Mr. White!

Hard despair settled down over Ollie. He drove home silently—very silently, for the gay Ollie Ferguson to be of a Sunday night. Only when he reached home and got out to unhitch his mare he sighed mightily and groaned out, "That confounded missionary!"

He passed a hard night. He could not sleep till near three, and then he dreamed he was in South America stoning missionaries. Once in the course of his dream he thought that he and the natives succeeded in killing one missionary, which afterwards proved to be the one who was "after" Ernestine. Upon waking he took this dream to be a good omen, but he was too sensible a young man to be long comforted by a dream, and was soon as miserable as ever again. The next day and those that followed were harrowing ones for Ollie. No one, from looking at his face, would ever have believed that he was the successful candidate in the late famous election, that it was he who had won the great road commissioner victory. Indeed, the election triumph was almost forgotten by him, except as it was connected with Ernestine.

But one day Ollie had an encounter with Jessie Franklin. He saw her drive past his home, going westward, early in the morning. The Franklin girls had an aunt living on the other side of Poplar Creek, and some one or other of them went to see her regularly every week. This was where Jessie was going now, Ollie knew. He almost knew that she would be returning about five o'clock in the afternoon, as she always had to help her father with the evening chores. He loitered about all day thinking up a plan, then about five in the afternoon he took his mail-box and hatchet and went out along the fence that bordered the road. There were no loose posts in this fence and no broken boards, but after awhile he bent over a panel and began nailing, anyway. It seemed absurd to be nailing a sound fence, but he did not care. By-and-by, just as he expected, the familiar bay horse and the big old phaeton of the Franklin's came along.

Quite near the place in the road where Ollie was nailing his fence, there was an old threshing-engine, overturned in a gully. The smoke-stack of this stuck up oddly from among some tall weeds. Nearly all horses passing this for the first time took fright at it, and many of those passing it not for the first time took fright at it also. Jessie Franklin's horse, of course, had passed it many times, but it seemed he felt no easier by reason of this. As soon as he caught sight of it he began snorting and backing. This fell in with Ollie's plan. He immediately stepped forward, and, laying his hand on the bridle, led the horse safely past the old smoke-stack.

Jessie, no doubt, could have forced her horse past without assistance as well as she had done in the morning, but she could not help being civil, anyway. "Oh, thank you!" she said, agitatedly, and then was about to pass on.

But Ollie kept his hand on the bridle. It was a very bold thing to do, he feared, but he wasn't going to be afraid of Jessie, he told himself—fat, rosy little Jessie whom he had romped with many a time.

"I want to talk with you a minute, Jessie," he said.

Jessie hesitated and looked frightened. "I—I'm afraid I can't. Father, you know—" she began.

"Yes, I know. Your father doesn't want you to speak to me," he said. "But is it right or fair, Jessie? I ask you that! What have I done?"

Jessie said nothing but looked troubled and undecided.

"You needn't tell your father about it if it gets you into trouble," pursued the daring Ollie; "but I want to talk to you a minute. You know yourself there's nothing really wrong about it."

Jessie hesitated and hesitated, and then yielded. "Well, for just one minute, then!" she said.

Ollie let go the bridle and went around to the buggy's step. "It's about that missionary, Jessie," he began, "that infernal ex-missionary!"

"Oh, Ollie, don't swear!" exclaimed Jessie.

"I won't. Excuse me—but I can't stand it, you know. I feel as though I could half kill that fellow!"

"Oh, Ollie! How can you? Mr. White is such a good man! He's awful good—indeed he is! He preached three years in South America, and the people nearly stoned him to death once—"

"I wish they'd finished their job!" muttered Ollie.

Jessie was shocked speechless.

Ollie, leaning heavily against the dashboard with one hand and pulling his mustache with the other, maintained a stormy silence for a moment. He seemed to be thinking rebelliously upon something or other, then after awhile he moved impatiently and pushed back the big old straw hat that shaded his face. Jessie was startled. It was the first full look she had had of his face, and she was amazed; it was so changed. There was not a trace of the old boyish look, and the expression of the features was so

hard and grim. She would not have believed that the merry, debonaire Ollie could have looked so. She began to fear there was something awful in this feeling Ollie and Ernestine had for each other.

"What I want to know, Jessie, is, what's the fellow hanging around your house all the time for?" Ollie said. "If he has a church in Weber county, why doesn't he go and preach in it? What's he stopping in Poplar Grove for?"

"Visiting—just visiting," said Jessie.

"But he takes Ernestine home from church Sunday nights," said Ollie. "I saw him twice! That's not visiting!"

Jessie's good heart was touched for Ollie in his anxiety and pain.

"There's nothing in it, Ollie," she said, earnestly. "I know Mr. White did walk home with her two or three times, but he isn't going to any more! There's nothing in it—truly. Ernestine said—"

Then she stopped suddenly. She thought of home and father and the girls. What would they say if they knew she was talking thus to Ollie—telling over the family secrets to the tabooed Ollie.

But he was not going to be put off now. "What were you going to say?" he insisted.

But she would not speak. He asked again, but still she would not answer. Then Ollie's hand closed over Jessie's fat white wrist. "Tell me what it was—tell me what Ernestine said!" he demanded.

"Well, you see, father and Ernestine had a kind of a quarrel lately," began Jessie. "I'm sure I oughtn't to tell, but you're so fierce! It was father's fault. I guess he did want Ernestine to marry Mr. White at first, and one day he hinted it to her. He told her he thought she would make a nice preacher's wife, because she's so sober and nice, and it made Ernestine mad. She told him she knew he wanted to get her married, but she wasn't going to do it. She said if he wanted to get rid of her at home she could go to Aunt Deb's to live, but she'd never marry Mr. White, nor have anything more to do with him as long as she lived. Father gave up after that."

A smile broke over Ollie's troubled features for a moment. "And Ernestine said all that to him, did she?" he asked, eagerly.

"Yes, she said it," returned Jessie. "but I'm sure I oughtn't to have told! I'm going to drive on now, Ollie. I must."

He reluctantly withdrew from between the wheels, and the horse started on.

"I'm glad I made her tell me, anyway," he said to himself, as he watched the buggy move away. "I'm glad I made her tell! I'm glad I found out all that!"

After that he had no more anxiety about the "ex-missionary." Mr. White, not long after, left the neighborhood, and they heard of him no more. Afterward, in his own mental history, Ollie referred to the experience as the "Missionary Scare." However, the same "Missionary Scare" had left its own benefits with him. For one thing he had found out by it how desperately in love with Ernestine he was, and for another thing it had awakened him to the fact that some other fellow might step in and get her while he was thus separated from her. This was what worried him now—some other fellow might get her. And many a long day and hour Ollie spent trying to think up some way of getting into favor in the Franklin family again, and many and many a time he wished he had never been nominated or elected to the office of road commissioner for Poplar Grove.

[To be Continued.]

A NAPOLEON OF FINANCE.

Cholly—"Harry is a great financier." Chappie—"Yess?" Cholly—"He borrowed a nickel from me yesterday to take him uptown to see a man that he knew he could borrow five dollars from, and with that five dollars he blew off another man that he borrowed a hundred from."—New York Journal.

I have used Jayne's Expectorant for twenty years, and am sure that it SAVED MY LIFE IN ONE OR TWO INSTANCES.—G. W. LORD, Silver Lake, Maine, Oct. 16, 1895.

For the Liver, use Jayne's Painless Sanative Pills.

HE KNEW A GOOD THING.

The combination agency of Peerless Atlas (with new Atlas and Klondike department, Map and History) and FARM AND FIRESIDE or WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, is the agency that pays the best of anything, unless it be the combination agency of "American Women" and WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, which is likewise an extraordinary success. A letter from one of the most experienced canvassers in Wisconsin, says: "I have just returned from a Chicago house, who gave me what they called a general agency. I hardly paid my expenses. Shall quit their business, and resume your combination agency, which I always found to pay well. The two periodicals you publish and their very low price, make the work easy and pleasant. Inclosed find money for sample volumes of 'American Women.'"

Christmas at Silverton Ranch

BY ELLA HOUGHTON.

KATE SILVERTON stood by the kitchen table slicing kettlefuls of pumpkin for the making of many pies. There would be fifteen men for dinner to-morrow, and the same number for supper. Moreover, there would be a repetition of this same program of cooking for an army of hard-working, hungry men for several days to come. Last year's corn was all in the crib, and to-morrow would begin the work of shelling, and almost the entire crop of the present season was also to be shelled. The price had taken a sudden bound, and Bart Silverton was not one to miss an opportunity.

Kate sighed as she thought of the never-ending round and monotony of it all. There was no one to help her, and always something extra had to be done that brought her an extra number of men to provide the substantial of life for. There was not even the encouragement of necessary conveniences to do with. Her kitchen was an unfurnished workshop, for her husband's besetting sin was the saying of "can't afford."

Bart had never meant to be selfish and unkind to Kate. But Aunt Martha Silverton had liked the old house well enough, just as it was, when she kept house for her thrifty, economical nephew, and had in every way encouraged his penuriousness. She took the greatest pride and satisfaction in "getting along a'most any way to save." But Aunt Martha died one day, and Bart found himself bereft of a housekeeper. That was the long and short of the bereavement. He had a long time admired Kate Glen, the pretty-faced teacher that had gone regularly back and forth past his farm, to and from her little country school, and when one day he told her of his love and asked her for his wife, she consented to give over her life of school-teaching independence to preside over his home.

Bart Silverton was a handsome, manly fellow. He dressed well and drove good horses, had a pleasing way and a well-filled purse, so that Kate little dreamed the life of drudgery she was accepting when she essayed to take up the threads of house-keeping where Aunt Martha had so suddenly laid them down. At first she had not so very much minded the shabby old rooms and their shabbier belongings, for Bart had promised that after harvest the whole house should be thoroughly renovated and remodeled. New carpets and curtains and furniture, and pretty and convenient new things all over the house were promised, and were occasionally talked of when Kate insisted on talking of them. But when "after harvest" had four times come and gone and the old house remained the same, except for the additional shabbiness that comes with the constant wear, Kate's pretty face had come to look fretted, and a discontented tone had crept into her tone of voice. For she knew it was not necessary that things continued to go on in this way. Bart Silverton had been virtually a wealthy man when she married him, and misfortunes had not attended his efforts at farming since Kate had been brought there to preside. But the dollars looked more precious to him than a handsome or even a pretty home. It had been the same with his father in his day, and his mother had always been one to "get along."

Kate was unmistakably angered and at war with the fate that had come to her this December morning. The hits of pumpkin went flying into the kettle with a speed and a sound that should have been sufficient warning to her husband that the present was not the opportune time for mentioning a Christmas dinner. But he had not seemed to note the storm-cloud flying, though it was right before his eyes.

"I say, Kate," he began, as he came into the kitchen, "we ought to have a good, big Christmas dinner this year, and invite the Westlakes, Browns and Nelsons."

"Christmas dinner, indeed," echoed Kate.

"Yes, a Christmas dinner, wife. I've been thinking of it for several days, and I think we'd better give one, don't you? You know the first Christmas after we were married we were invited to Westlakes, and last year to Browns, and we were entertained at Nelsons two years ago. It doesn't look well, to say the least, to not do our share of the neighborhood entertaining."

"Bart Silverton!" and Kate's face pictured an anger that good-natured, easy-going Bart had never chanced to see there before. "What do you think I'm made of? Do you consider me cast-iron and tireless? Can't you find something else for me to do? Do you care whether I live or die? Do you think I have neither heart, soul or a sense of feeling? I am literally worn out now, and all these men to cook for for the next four days, no one to take a step for me, and Christmas only two weeks away, and you talking 'Christmas dinner.'"

"More than that," she continued, "you know there is not a nice article of table-furnishings in this house, except the few pieces of silver given me on our wedding-day, and the dear knows there is no use for them in this habitation. Nor is there a whole napkin or table-cloth in all this ramshackle of an

old house. No, Bart Silverton! I'll not even try to get up a dinner, and that's—"

"But Kate," interposed her husband, looking in wonderment at her to ascertain if possible whether she had suddenly been bereft of her reason, for she had never spoken or looked like this before. "But Kate, I'll get you—"

"No! Bart Silverton, I have not the face to parade our great poverty to our neighbors and friends. We will shield it all carefully from the public—we two, I can bear it best that way." But tears had got the better of her temper by this time, and she went hurriedly away to her room to cry it out alone.

The conversation was not resumed at noon when Bart came in to dinner, and Kate spoke as pleasantly as ever. She was just a bit ashamed of the show of temper she had displayed. Yet she could not help feeling that she was justified in it all, for Bart was selfish and unreasonable, and there was no evading the fact. She knew that he was abundantly able to give her a lovely home. Just the sacrifice of a few acres was all that would be needed to build a little mansion, and to fit it out in a style that would give her uncalculated happiness and pleasure. But the spring before, another quarter-section had been added to their landed possessions, and there was the inevitable interest, taxes and payments to be met in connection with it. Every available dollar had been paid down, and Bart was calculating that the sum he would shortly have now from the sale of the corn should make another partial payment. It would, in fact, almost clear the remaining indebtedness, though it had sold high, and he once more reasoned that they "could get along some way." And it was this continued, never-ending manner of living and reasoning that had eventually proven too much for Kate's usual amiability of temper. Bart had been blind and happy in pursuance of his greatest pleasure—that of money-getting. His life had never been in any wise monotonous, for he kept plenty of help and was never confined absolutely to his work or at home. Business called him down town several times a week, and he had hosts of congenial friends there. But Kate's life was very different. There was apparently nothing but work and worry for her. The old house and the worn, threadbare and dingy old things it contained looked well enough to him, for he had never been accustomed to anything better, and he had but the slightest realization of how dismal it must look to his wife. To be sure, she had told him her wishes, and had reminded him of his promises at various times. But promises are easily made, and a woman's hope and faith is strong and long-enduring.

But as there is an end to all things, so there had been at last an end to Kate's patience and endurance, and she had grown spiritless and sordid in disposition, to an extent, in spite of her efforts to make the best of things. But when Bart started for town this afternoon she followed him to the door to show him that she was not so very angry after all. "Don't stay late, dear," she said. "Come home early and help me a little. There is so much to do, and I am so tired." Tears glistened in her eyes, and Bart saw them, though she kept them back bravely.

"Do you expect any letters?" he asked, as he kissed her good-by and promised an early return from the village.

"If only there might be one from Anna," she said. "It is more than three weeks since I heard from her, and I'm so homesick to see her. What does her silence mean, I wonder?"

But Bart well knew the meaning of the letter long delayed, for only last week one had come in Anna's well-known hand-writing, addressed to himself, and marked "Personal." "Don't tell Kate I'm coming," she wrote, "for I want to surprise her. And don't you forget to meet me the tenth."

"I'll bring you something better than a letter, Kate," her husband called back to her, as he strode down the path toward the barn, where Jerry and Tom stood hitched to the platform-buggy.

"I wonder what he means," quoth Kate, as she resumed her work. "He could bring me nothing better than one of Anna's letters. Oh, sister! You precious comforter! What would be the world to me if you were gone?" And she sobbed outright over the thought of it. Besides, her heart was sore with imagined neglect and disappointment at so many little things. Besides, as she said, she was so tired. And a tired body means a fretted state of mind. But presently the tears were wiped away and she went mechanically about her work, thinking dimly of the letter from Anna that did not come; of the many men she had to cook for to-morrow and for days; of the proposed Christmas dinner and the shabby old house; her monotonous life and empty purse, until at half past six she suddenly heard the rattle of buggy-wheels and Bart's familiar "whoa!" But he had stopped at the gate, and that was queer, and he was calling her to the door. Hastening toward the hall-door she reached it just in time to be gathered into her sister's arms and to hear from Bart, as he drove to the barn, "Told you, didn't I, that I'd bring you something better than a letter?"

In their first happy moments, after a sep-

aration of more than three years, we leave them alone. Though we may listen to a part of their conversation of the evening. For Bart heard it, too, although they had not meant him to. And he told us later of the stinging blow it gave him, and of the good effects of it all.

"I had never dreamed what I was doing," he said, "until that eventful night. It woke me up with a vengeance."

Kate and Anna sat talking in the dingy little dining-room, believing Bart safely upstairs and in bed, where he said he was going more than an hour before. Instead, he had dropped down in his favorite corner by the sitting-room fireplace for just a few minutes' warming, and was soon sleeping fitfully in cat-nap fashion. Rousing suddenly from one of his naps he heard the name of Arthur King, and he sat there as if riveted to the spot, waiting and trembling, wondering what Kate would say of him.

"So fortunate," Anna had said, "that I came in time to help you through with this corn-shelling siege. But why haven't you a good, strong girl, and why don't you keep one always? Bart is able to afford you this."

And Kate had explained that Bart had never offered to keep help for her, or even to keep help on occasion, though he always kept plenty of help himself. Then she told her sister of how blue she had been all day; of Bart's insisting on their giving a Christmas dinner for the entertainment of their neighbors, and she told her of the condition of her napery and the dishes, and of the shabbiness of the whole house over, and of her husband's greed for land, cattle and fine horses, and gain in every form—forever and ever that same insatiable greed for gain. And before she had finished she told her sister all the long story of her own ambition and pride that had been thwarted on every side, until at last she had grown to feel continually cross and discouraged. And both sisters were crying before Kate had unhardened all her heart of disappointments and trials.

"Don't you wish you had married Arthur, dear?" said Anna, sobbing and drawing Kate closer to her. "He has a lovely home, and it might have been yours. And they say Arthur will never forget you. And oh, my sister! It nearly kills me to see you living like this, for Roy gets me everything, and we have such a pretty home. I can never enjoy it again, though, so long as you are in this state of mind, and so neglected. I almost wish you had married Arthur. Don't you, dear?"

"No, no!" sobbed Kate. "Don't talk like that, Anna, for I do love Bart dearly, after all. And I never loved Arthur King one bit. I did admire him a little before I met good old Bart Silverton. But handsome, dear old Bart eclipsed them all. And he doesn't mean to be unjust. He really doesn't know that he is. But he is! His father and penurious old Aunt Martha both helped to make him what he is—close and almost to stinginess. But, Anna, he is good and honest, and everybody respects my husband."

And so they sat talking, Bart all the time listening and learning, as he had never dreamed before, of how ungenerous and unjust he had been to his wife, and of how loyal she was to him in the face of it all.

"We'll have the Christmas dinner, though," said Anna, "and make him heartily ashamed of himself by letting him see how really shabby everything on the table is, except the cookery. We'll do ourselves proud in that, as the saying goes. We are both famous cooks, if we do say it ourselves. Yes. We'll have the dinner, and then after Christmas I'll get you a handsome set of dishes myself, if Bart doesn't do it." And she kissed her sister good-night.

Bart crept away to bed with a weight tugging at his heart such as he had never experienced before, and his mind was filled for hours after with a thousand and one of good resolutions that should make a marked change in their manner of living. Next morning he whispered to Anna at the first opportune moment that he needed her help, as he contemplated giving Kate a Christmas surprise.

Anna Raymond's heart smote her as she looked into his handsome, honest face, and she thought: "Dear old fellow! Did I misjudge you after all?"

"Can you have a table-cloth and a half dozen napkins hemmed 'twixt now and then, and without letting Kate know?"

Anna was sure she could, for she would keep a fire in her room and work evenings. She told her broad-shouldered brother-in-law. She would slip away to her room an occasional hour through the day also, and Kate would think her writing letters, or reading; so the damask was brought home and smuggled through the house and into Anna's room without having aroused a single suspicion.

"They are the nicest I could find in town," said Bart, and he wondered, as he said it, if he had ever felt quite so happy since the day Kate had said she liked him well enough to be his wife. "There will be more things home early Christmas eve. Kate says we shall have a Christmas dinner for you and Roy, and our neighbors. We'll show the neighbors a handsomely set table, too. So glad you came, Sister Anna. So glad—so glad!"

"But," to himself, "I almost dread to have

Roy Raymond come to this shabby old house. A little strange that it never looked to me quite so bad before. It will not be so much longer, be sure."

The corn-shelling well over, Kate and Anna began preparations for the promised Christmas dinner. The sisters were famous cooks, and Bart provided everything needed in abundance. The house was made as presentable as possible under the circumstances, but Kate was feeling not a little rebellious over the way that to-morrow's dinner-table would look. She had pictured it out in all its shabbiness, and had felt her mortification over it over and over again. Worst of all was to have Anna's husband see and know, and he would be there at five on Christmas morning.

Anna begged leave to drive to town with Bart the afternoon of December 24th, giving as an excuse to Kate her desire to select presents for Roy and her brother-in-law. While this was true, the main object in the trip to the village was to help Bart select the remainder of his presents for Kate. For she had brought presents for all in her trunk. They were early home again, and as they drove down the lane Kate spied a large box and many bundles in the light wagon, and wondered of their contents. But she had not long to wait to find out about it all. Immediately after supper Bart and his hired man brought the hamper in, and placing it in the middle of the kitchen floor he turned to his wife and said in a low voice, "A Christmas present for you, wife. Open the package and tell me if you are pleased with the present."

"Bart Silverton, it's a lovely set of dishes, I know, from the very appearance of the hamper." Her voice trembled, and her tears were very near the surface again. Bart understood her silence and the unusual look on her face, as piece after piece she took the dishes from their excelsior bed and wrappings, and disposed them about her on the floor. Before she had reached the bottom of the hamper Anna brought the new napery and laid in Kate's lap, and a heavy plush box, that opened, revealed to her the beauty and glitter of a dozen and a half each of silver knives, forks and spoons. Bart was not one to do things by halves, and his pocket-book had, simultaneously with his heart, opened wide. The silver in its bed of gold-

colored satin was beautiful, and with her eyes fixed on the picture they made she mused, "Silver and gold have I." And not only here, but better than all, in the heart of my husband. Bart, forgive me, will you, for feeling so cross at you, as I sometimes have done? I did love you all the time, Bart," and she slipped her arm about his neck as she stood beside his chair, sobbing, in her penitence, as though her heart would break.

"But, Bart; you didn't understand, did you, how bitter and hard life has seemed to me sometimes? And I seemed to be growing so bitter and rebellious. Can you forgive me, Bart? Really forgive me, and love me like this?"

There was a huskiness in Bart Silverton's voice as he told his wife that she was worthy of everything nice, and that this was but the beginning of the changes that should be made for her before the ending of another six months.

"Anna," he said, turning to his sister-in-law, who was sobbing as though there was real grief instead of happiness in the Silverton household, "if only you could come next summer again, and see the pretty home that Kate will be presiding over then. For—well, I'm going to turn over a new leaf, beginning with Christmas eve, as you see, instead of beginning with New-Year's day. It takes so little to make a woman happy, and here I've been denying my wife all these things that I really can afford her. I've been a bear and a brute. But, Anna—Kate—I did not mean to be! Indeed I did not!"

Not for long months after did Kate learn that Bart had overheard the conversation between herself and sister the night of Anna's arrival, nor could she account for the great change that came over him, until at last he confessed to her that, when he came to see himself as others saw him, he concluded it quite time that he began turning over new leaves in his manner of living and providing.

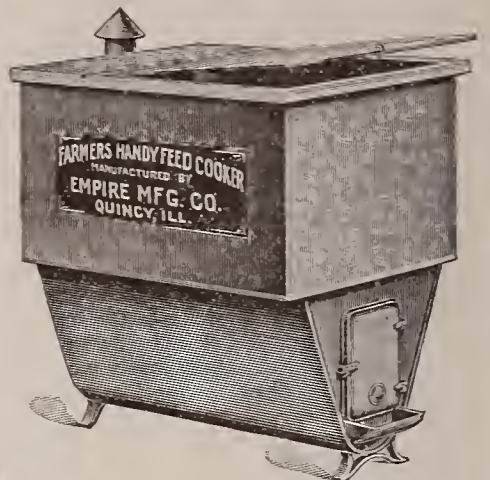
The Christmas dinner was a success, and Kate's dinner-table was both a feast for eyes and palates, and if ever there heaved a happy, satisfied expression from a woman's countenance it was from Kate's, as she said to her guests, "This is all a Christmas-gift

surprise from Mr. Silverton. Isn't this a lovely set of china?"

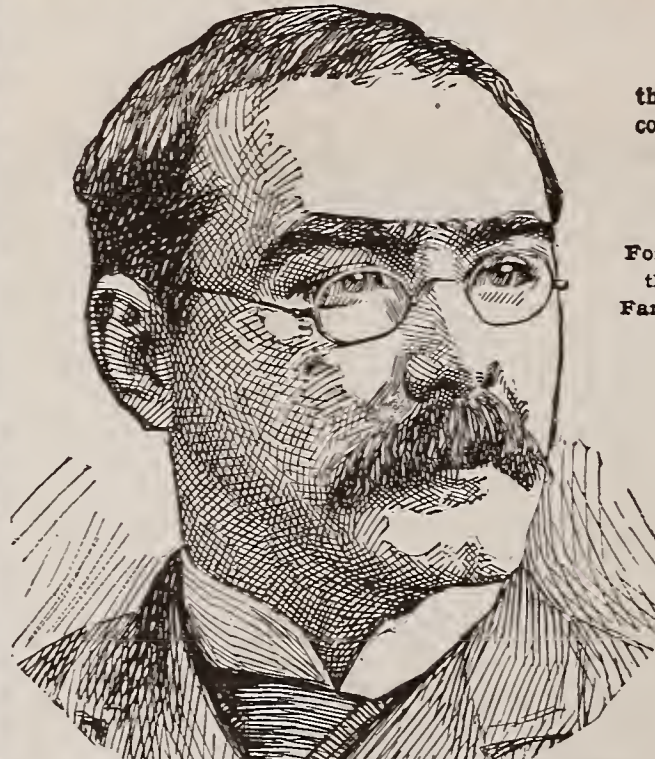
Anna did come again the following September to enjoy with her sister the new home made over, that "was better than new," Kate said. And when Anna came this time there was a strong German girl in the kitchen, and Kate was looking her brightest and prettiest. There was no mistaking the joy that filled her heart this time—the heart that had been so full of worry and disappointment only a short year before.

FARMER'S HANDY FEED COOKER.

We desire to call our readers' attention to the Farmer's Handy Feed Cooker, which is sold at the low price of \$12.50 for 50-gallon capacity.



By feeding poultry and stock with cooked food during the winter months, at least one third of the food is saved; also having stock in a healthy condition, preventing hog cholera among your hogs, and insuring the hens laying freely during the winter months when eggs are always wanted at high prices. This Cooker will pay for itself in one week's time and is without doubt the best and cheapest on the market—just what its name implies, a Farmer's Handy Feed Cooker. Upon application to the Empire Manufacturing Co., Quincy, Ill., a catalogue, giving a full description, may be obtained. They are made in all sizes.



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Our Household.

MOTHER.

How sweet the accents of that tender word
Upon the dewy lip of infancy!
It strikes all vibrant on the deepest chord
Of human hearts, quick'ning to melody
Whate'er the tongue—a savage language
crude,

Patois, or polished language of our age,
The appellation which greets motherhood.
Like blessed balm with bit' rest grief as-
suage.

Whisper it to the hero on the field,
And mark the soft'ning of his blazing eye;
Speak it to him who did his honor yield.
His mouth will droop repentant, wistfully;
Repeat it to the king, e'en he will yearn
To change for footstool his canopied throne;
Unto the orphan breathe it, he will turn
His eyes to where a saintly form has flown.

The feel of childish hands upon the breast,
The tear-wet lash, the smile of purity,
The rose-leaf cheek our saddened lips have
pressed,

Merge, bud in bloom, to rich maturity.
But, ah, there is a spell, a mystic name
That bridges o'er the years and tempers
fate.

The incense born of love's holiest flame,
And deeds unselfish mothers immolate.
New Orleans, May, 1897. Ida Cole.

HOME TOPICS.

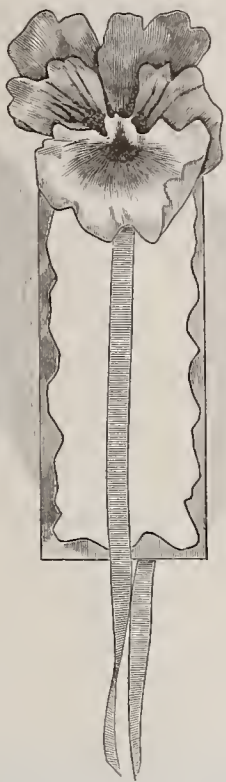
HOLLANDAISE SAUCE FOR FISH.—For one pint of sauce use one tablespoonful of butter and one tablespoonful of flour. Mix them in a sauce-pan over the fire, but do not let them brown. Add gradually one and one half teacupfuls of boiling water. Have the yolks of three eggs beaten, and pour the boiling sauce slowly into them, stirring it all the time. Then return it to the fire, and stir until it is nearly ready to boil, but do not let it boil; then add a tablespoonful of lemon-juice, or vinegar, mixed with one half teaspoonful of mustard and a pinch of salt.

LAMB CUTLETS.—Have three slices, about one half inch thick, cut from a leg of lamb. Mix two tablespoonfuls of lemon-juice, half a teaspoonful of salt, one eighth of a teaspoonful of pepper and two tablespoonfuls of salad-oil. Rub this mixture over the cutlets, cover them in a dish, and let them set for an hour or more. When ready to cook, spread the cutlets with melted butter, dip them into fine bread-crumbs, and broil them over a moderate fire for eight or ten minutes.

CARE OF TABLE-LINEN.—Every good housewife takes pride in her table-linen, but unless she looks after it herself it is apt to soon lose its snowy whiteness and spotless splendor. The average laundress will not take the time and care necessary to keep it at its best. Fruit-stains can usually be removed by pouring boiling water through the spots before they are put into suds. Borax used in the suds, in the proportion of two tablespoonfuls of the powder to about eight gallons of water, will whiten linen and assist in removing stains. Do not starch table-linen, but take it from the line while damp, roll it up and wrap a damp cloth around

such pieces are never allowed to get very much soiled, and can be easily washed. All embroideries should be ironed on the wrong side, and one should not use a very hot iron on colored silk embroideries.

TRAINING CHILDREN TO WORK.—Whatever work children are given to do they



should be taught to do it carefully and thoroughly. They should be encouraged to work with rapidity, but do not let it be at the expense of thoroughness. Don't require too much at first, not more than the child can do without becoming sick

separately into well-beaten eggs, then into rolled bread-crumbs. Let them lay a few minutes, until the crumbs have absorbed the eggs, and dip again into the eggs and roll in crumbs. Have a very little hot fat in the frying-pan, and fry the bacon quickly, taking care that it does not scorch, and serve hot with a garnish of parsley-leaves or celery-tips.

OYSTERS WITH EGG SAUCE.—To a heaping tablespoonful of butter add a cupful of oyster liquor, and when boiling hot drop in one quart of oysters; cook until the edges curl, remove from the fire, season with salt and pepper, and arrange on a hot platter. Have ready prepared a sauce of dressing made from two well-beaten eggs and a half cupful of sweet cream; salt and pepper, and stir constantly over the fire until it thickens and pour hot over the oysters. Garnish with celery-tips and serve immediately.

POTATO-PUFFS.—Prepare as for mashed potatoes. While hot shape into balls about the size of an egg, and arrange on a well-buttered baking-pan. Brush over with softened butter, slip into a hot oven until slightly browned; remove to a hot platter, and serve.

DELICIOUS SWEET POTATOES.—Parboil the potatoes, remove from the water, pare, cut into thick slices, and arrange in a baking-dish with a scant sprinkling of sugar to each slice, a little salt and pepper, a dash of ground cinnamon, a heaping tablespoonful of butter, and water to cover the bottom of the baking-pan. Cover and bake. Just before serving

minutes; remove cover, brown, and serve in same dish.

DELICIOUS APPLE PUDDING.—Pare, core and quarter quickly-cooking apples. Place two or three layers in the bottom of a pudding-dish, and cover with a thin dough made from a cupful of rich sweet cream, pinch of salt, teaspoonful of baking-powder in flour enough to make a dough just stiff enough to spread with a spoon, and not thin enough to run down among the apples. Bake in a moderate oven, and serve with sweetened cream, as the fruit is not sweetened before baking. Peaches, pears, blackberries, rhubarb or gooseberries may be used instead of apples. It needs to be eaten to be fully appreciated.

CLARA S. EVERTS.

CHILD'S SUIT.

This neat suit for a little girl from five to ten is easily made in any of the new

wools in plain colors, trimmed with braid, with satin bows upon the shoulders and at the neck. The shirt-vest can be of white silk or organdie for dress occasions, or of any pretty dark silk for other times. It is a dressy and serviceable suit for all occasions. L.

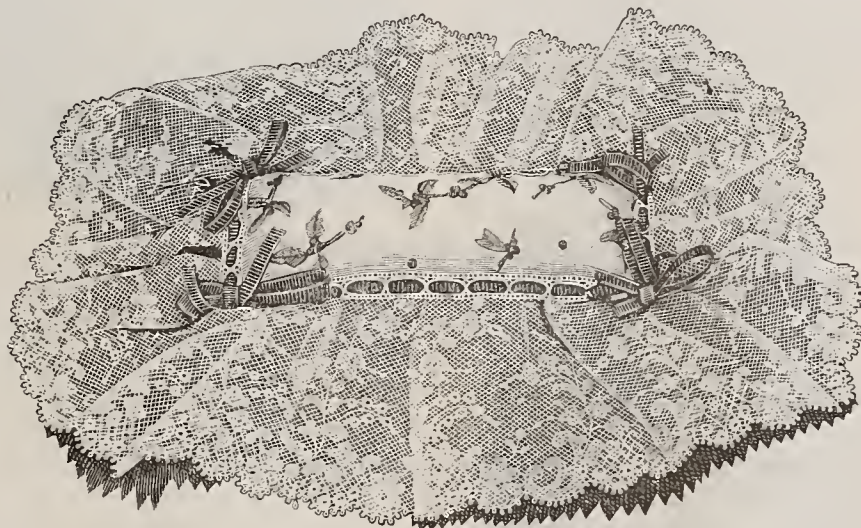
LITTLE GIFTS FOR LITTLE GIRLS TO GIVE.

The younger girls, or the little girls, like to fashion something their very own work, sometimes, for different ones of the family, and here are some I think you can make.

PINCUSHIONS are coming back. It is easier to pick a pin out of the cushion than to chase one all over a plate. The cushions you can buy already made, in several shapes. The hearts are pretty, and so are the very long, narrow ones. Cover with lace, and add a little embroidery. If you cannot do it, get a little piece of embroidered chiffon and put over silk; finish around the cushion with a heading through which a ribbon is drawn, and a wide lace felled on as the finishing touch.

PANSY SACHET OR EMERY.—This is made of two shades of yellow or purple satin ribbon. A three-inch piece is taken for the bag, two inches sewed together, and the one left plaited and turned down over the bag, the ends being rounded. Two other pieces two inches long are plaited, crossed and fastened to the top. In the center there is painted the heart of the pansy with water-colors.

BOOK-MARK PANSY.—This is made of heavy cardboard three inches long and one and one quarter wide. An irregular line is traced as a border with china-paste, then gilded. A pansy is cut in two pieces of bolting-cloth, one pasted on each side of the end and over the little ribbons. Up-



and tired of it, but the task once given, insist on perseverance until it is finished in the best possible manner. It is an important lesson learned when a child has learned how much more pleasure there is in doing a piece of work well than doing it in a careless, slipshod manner. Children who have been trained to do a few things well will be careful and faithful workers in anything they undertake. The habit of accuracy will be seen in all they say, as well as in what they do. I know it takes unending patience to accomplish this, but we owe it to the child, and the result will more than pay for the trouble.

MAIDA McL.

THINGS GOOD TO EAT.

POTATO-SOUP.—Pare three medium-sized potatoes, cut into dice, and cook in a pint of boiling salted water. When tender add a quart of rich sweet milk, a small lump of butter, salt and pepper to taste, and when it boils a scant

tablespoonful of flour smoothed in a little cold milk. Let boil up well, and add two thoroughly beaten eggs. Stir rapidly for one minute, and serve hot with crisp crackers, or what is better, small squares of twisted bread. It is delicious.

BREADED BACON.—Cut bacon or other fat pork into neat, thin slices. Parboil to freshen by placing in cold water. When it boils, remove, drain, and dip each slice

remove cover so as to brown potatoes slightly.

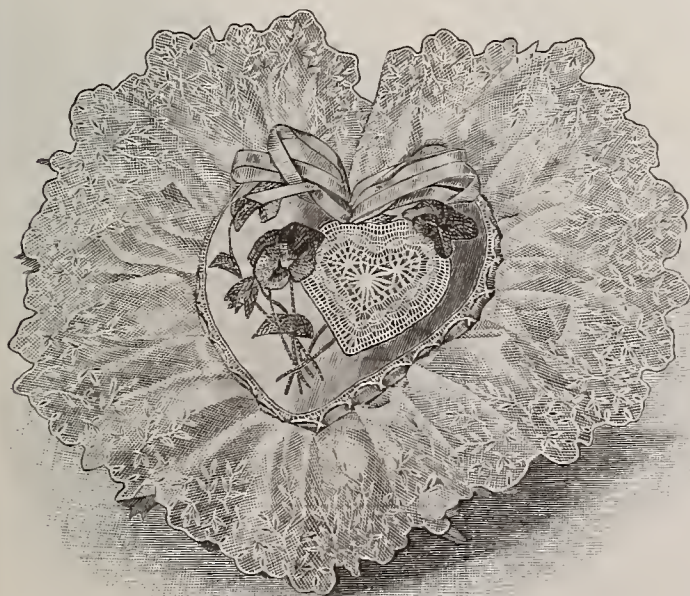
ESCALLOPED CORN.—One pint of corn, either freshly cut from the cob, canned or dried, if properly freshened and ready for cooking. Divide into three equal parts,

Put one third in the bottom of a baking-dish, season it, add a layer of very fine dry bread-crumbs, salt, pepper and bits of butter, another third of the corn and the crumbs, and so on, having a very thin layer of crumbs on top with plenty of butter. Pour over all enough rich sweet milk to show through the top, but not really cover; cover the dish and bake twenty

on this is painted a beautiful pansy, the edges outlined with paste.

RIBBON BOOK-MARKS.—Get No. 12 ribbon in lavender or cream-white, and have a sweet verse printed upon it, or a short poem. Fringe the edges, and give it to grandma for her Bible. The lettering can be gold upon white or purple upon the lavender.

E. B. R.



it until you are ready to iron. Have a thick cloth on the ironing-table, shake all fringe out well, and iron the pieces while very damp. Use as hot an iron as you can and not scorch, and iron each piece until perfectly dry. It is best to wash doilies, centerpieces, tray-cloths and all embroidered pieces by themselves. Do not hang them on the line, but roll them in a dry sheet and iron them soon. Of course,



Our Household.

HUSH, HEART, HUSH.

Hush, heart, hush!
Why murmur to-night and break the rest
Of every angel that bides in my breast?
Why whisper in sorrow the saddest words
That the tender depths of a soul e'er stirred?
Hush, heart, hush!

Rest, heart, rest!

Thou art weary, so weary of strife and care;
But heavier burdens thou must yet bear;
Burdens that crush and leave thee to bleed,
With no one to pity and no one to heed.

Rest, heart, rest!

Bow, heart, bow!

Forget thy weak pride, thy sad wailing chant,
And ask of kind heaven in mercy to grant
A wing to enfold thee amid the wild storm,
Yea, the wing of his mercy, keeping from harm.

Bow, heart, bow!

Hope, heart, hope!

See the thick darkness is breaking away,
The stars must fade out when cometh the day.

O, faint not in weakness, arise and be strong;
Thy courage is needed to battle with wrong.

Hope, heart hope.

—Al. J. Wyger, New Orleans, 1897.

NUTS.

NUTS are fruits, a fact overlooked by many adherents of fruit-foods. They are an essential constituent of vegetarian diet, containing strengthening elements of meats, and they supply an appetizing and nutritious vari-



No. 1.

ety for a mixed diet. Where salad-oils and meat fats are used freely, nuts often are schewed as too rich for comfortable digestion. But they contain the most whole-

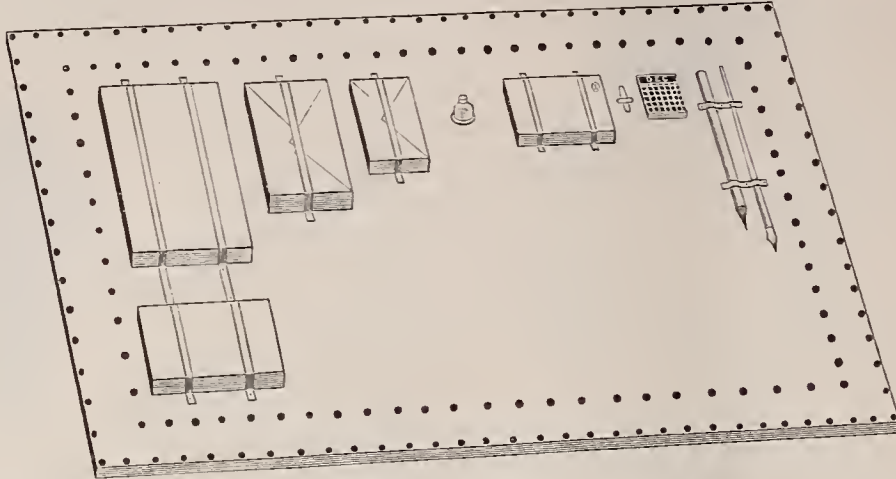
mastication. A few go a good ways, and they should be eaten during meals, dressed plentifully with salt, or as ingredients of prepared dishes. Nut-oil in the form of an emulsion, called nut-butter, is a delicious, creamy preparation easily assimilated. It can be used in place of butter, for shortening, as the foundation for vegetable soup and in salad-dressing; thinned and heated it is an excellent substitute

fuls of flour, one cupful of powdered sugar and a cupful of minced hickory-nut meats, added last. Drop in tins lined with paraffin paper, and bake slowly.

HELEN HUNTINGTON BULLARD.

WRITING-PAD.

Have made a smooth, thin board, fifteen inches wide and twenty-four inches long.



for hot milk. Nut-meats can be obtained in the form of meal, for use in gruels, soups, combined with fruits, and in many other ways readily devised by a resourceful cook.

Chestnuts are valuable in cookery, though much neglected for such use in this country. They are rich in starch, contain little oil and are susceptible of many savory combinations. Perhaps the most approved way of eating nuts is with bread, in the form of sandwiches. Equal parts of finely chopped hickory-nuts or English walnuts and Swiss or cream cheese seasoned with pepper and salt, make a good sandwich.

Another way is to moisten chopped meats with cream salad-dressing, made without oil and spread between the bread-layers. Or simply moistened with weak vinegar and seasoned with salt is a method preferred by many. Still another relishing combination is to spread bread with nut-butter and lay a lettuce-leaf wet with salad-dressing between the slices. Nuts are especially palatable with dates. Spread thinly sliced brown bread with dates and nut-meats chopped together.

Cover the top with one layer of wadding and over this stretch denim of any preferred color. Use a furniture-tape and brass nails as divisions for the different articles. This is a very useful article



No. 2.

when traveling, as it can be laid right on top of everything packed, and can be readily produced to write the first letter home. Having all one's writing materials together in one place makes it more possible for the dear ones at home to hear sooner than otherwise of your safe arrival

A place is arranged for an ink-well, but as this is a risky thing to travel with, I would not recommend it. It is like a fountain-pen—always leaking. After trying three I concluded they weren't intended for women's use. But it is always a woman's way to write upon her lap, and this convenience will find many admirers.

REX.

ROMAN CUT-WORK.

This continues to be a favorite style with many housekeepers. Always in white, it gives a very chaste appearance to whatever it lends its decoration. No. 1 is for tray-cloths or bureau-scarfs, and is worked over a fine cord, which is carried all along the outline of the pattern. The picots around the edge are made by inserting a knitting-needle, and withdrawing it after the stitch has been passed. In No. 2 the cut-away places are filled in with spider-web stitches, and outlining of silk is carried across the entire center to form lattice-work. This is all carried out in white. The doily, No. 3, has pale blue china silk introduced in the palm-leaves and work around the edge with a darker blue. These are quite new, and very exquisite both in design and coloring. I noticed in the stores the other day small packages of towels, six in a package, of fine bird's-eye linen, towels neatly hem-stitched, with initials worked in cross-stitch upon them. They were intended for the use of gentlemen after shaving. These would be a nice gift to husband, brother or lover at any time, if the suggestion comes too late for Christmas.

BELLE KING.

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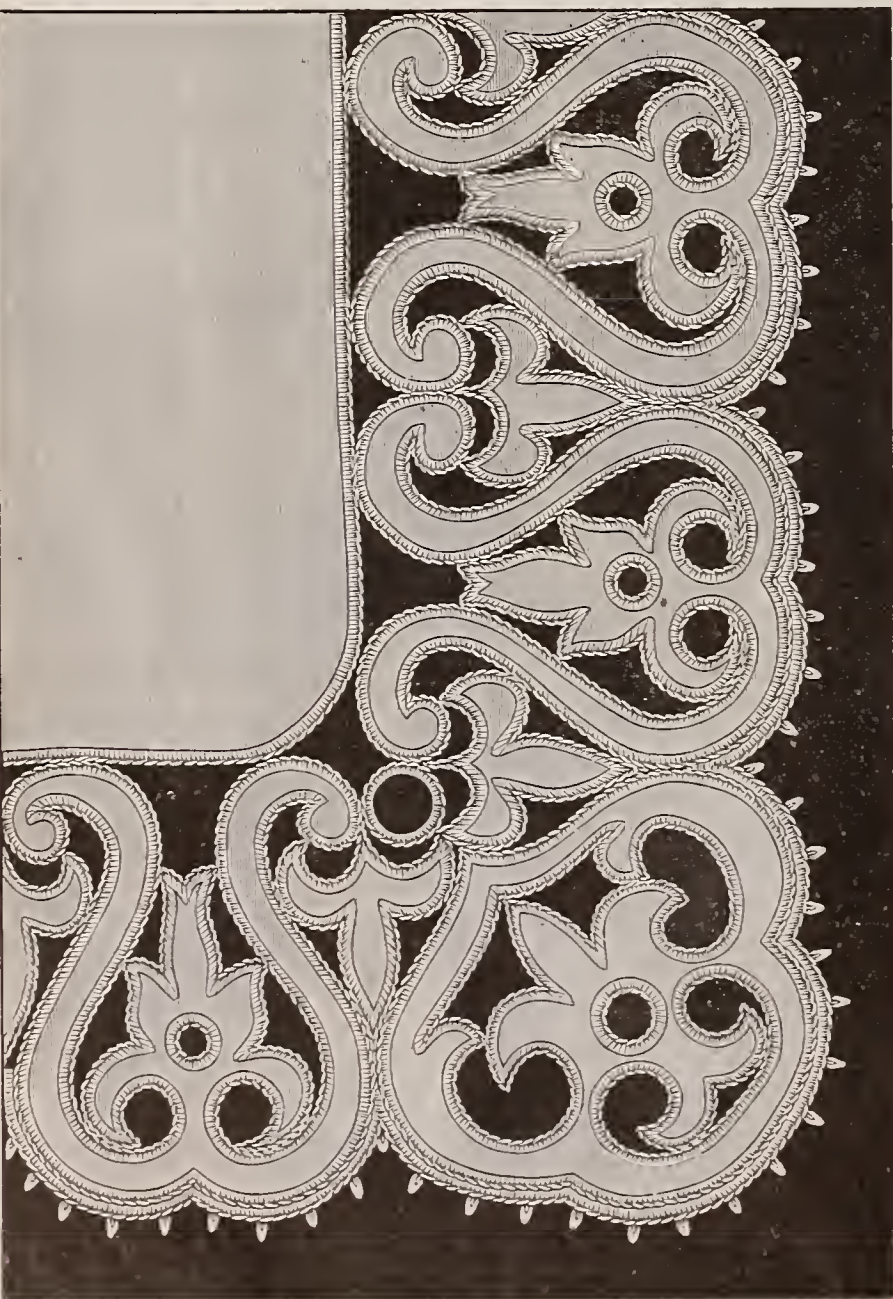
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No. 3.

some and nourishing fats, and really the most digestible, if properly used.

The reasons for the havoc nuts work with delicate stomachs are overeating, wrong times of eating and insufficient

For sweets, remove stones from dates and fill with nut-meats, carefully pressing together the opening. Roll in powdered sugar. Make macaroons of the whites of three eggs, well beaten, four teaspoon-

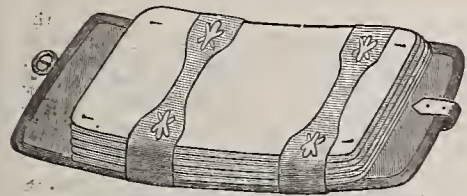
CARPETS AND RUGS.

So far as beauty is concerned, home-made rugs are seldom so satisfactory as one would wish them to be. They may be useful and serviceable, but they are seldom pretty. Of carpet-rags the same may be said, and in later years of housekeeping we have very much doubted the wisdom or economy of rag-carpet making. And why?

Ingrain carpets have come to be so comparatively cheap that one can almost as well afford one of two-ply texture, as



to make the carpet of rags. Sixty-five cents a yard buys an all-wool, two-ply carpet, and forty cents a yard will purchase a carpet that to the last of its existence will be more satisfactory in both wear and appearance. Garments that are fit for carpet-rags are worth mending, and when past mending, even the better parts of those garments are worn too thin to do good service in floor wear. Their days of usefulness are over, except in the capacity of cleaning and dusting cloths, of which one can scarce have too many.



Rags that are not strong will never pay to have woven into carpets, for the chain and weaving prices for a poor carpet are the same as for a good one.

Garments worn out are more often than otherwise, much faded, and to do service in rag-carpets, must be dyed. Dyes at ten cents a package add very materially to the cost of the carpet, though one argues that they "do not mind that expense much, as it comes just a little at a time." It usually amounts to a dollar or more before the desired colors are all obtained. Twenty-five cents a pound is usually, and in fact we have found it invariably the price for warp, and twelve and one half cents a yard the price for weaving. Twenty-five or thirty cents a yard may be safely counted on as probable cost of the rag-carpet. And all said and done, it is then but a rag-carpet. It will not wear so long as the forty-cent carpet, and it is but a little time until it is looking faded and worn. Carpets at forty cents are wool and cotton mixed. An occasional one of them seems not to fade. Shades of oak and tan are serviceable, and reds, greens and blues are usually to be depended upon. The two-ply ingrain, at sixty-five cents (present price), are such as three years ago we were paying eighty cents for. When so worn as to have become shabby and undesirable in other of the living-rooms, or bed-rooms, the better part of them are seamed together upon the sewing-machine, regardless of "matching," and give long service upon the kitchen floor. These strips are very desirable for this purpose giving as they do to the freshly-scoured kitchen floor, an air of hominess that an entirely bare floor is always devoid of. They wash easily, dry soon, look neat, and save much of scouring and cleaning. Rag-carpets after being washed a time or two looked faded, and show soil more readily than the ingrain strips. Dust and dirt sweeps from out the meshes of the ingrain, whereas it clings to the carpet of rag-making.

Braided rugs cannot in any wise be called pretty, yet they are worth making for kitchen wear. Made of men's wear, they are heavy and lie in place upon the floor. They may be shaken of dust and dirt for a long time, and look very well. Hard sweeping cleans them nicely. When soap and water cleansing must be given, they may be placed upon a piece of side-

walk, scoured thoroughly with the hot suds by use of a broom or scrubbing-brush, when they should be dipped into a tub of rinse-water, dashing them up and down until well cleared of the dirty suds. Hung upon a panel of fence to drip dry in the sun or wind, they will come out from their bath, looking as good as new.

Rags for braided rugs should be cut an inch or more in width, the edges turned under as the work progresses, and the braiding be loosely done. Rags must be pieced on as required, for they are difficult to handle if long. The work may be pinned down while braiding. It is work that is done swiftly, and this is one point in favor of such rug-making, to the busy house-keeper whose time is always over full.

ELLA HOUGHTON.

GIFTS FOR GENTLEMEN.

It is always more difficult to select something for the gentlemen. Now, one thing a man is particular about is his linen, so nothing nicer can be thought of than cases for collars and cuffs. Take a cuff or collar as a measure and plan your pattern. Make them of bronze leather lined with satin; bind the edges first with narrow galloon; then make the lining over a sheet of wadding, fold over all the edges, and neatly sew it to the binding. Make all the inside alike, of gold, pale blue or cream-white satin; even the hold over straps should be made of the lining material, upon which the initials or flowers can be embroidered.

WHISK-BROOM RECEIVER.—With this a receiver is a very good attachment. It is first worked on denim with coronation-braid and fancy stitches in silk, then put upon two pieces of pasteboard lined, and edged with the braid, and hung with a ribbon. The braid comes in white, blue and red.

The beauty of these gifts depends upon the neatness with which they are made. B. K.

APRONS.

Looking over a Christmas list of a friend's, I noticed handkerchiefs and aprons predominated. When I spoke of it, she said, "Yes, they are the two things I make the nicest, and I know that where every one of them goes they will be prized and welcome."

The stores are full of aprons, but what are they after the first laundering? Nothing but dust-rags? Poor material and common lace look well while fresh, perhaps, but for wear an apron must be made of good material and well sewed.

There are many occasions that demand a fancy apron. These, if made of good lace and ribbon, last for a couple of years. I have one of scrim, with two rows of beautiful drawn-work across the bottom



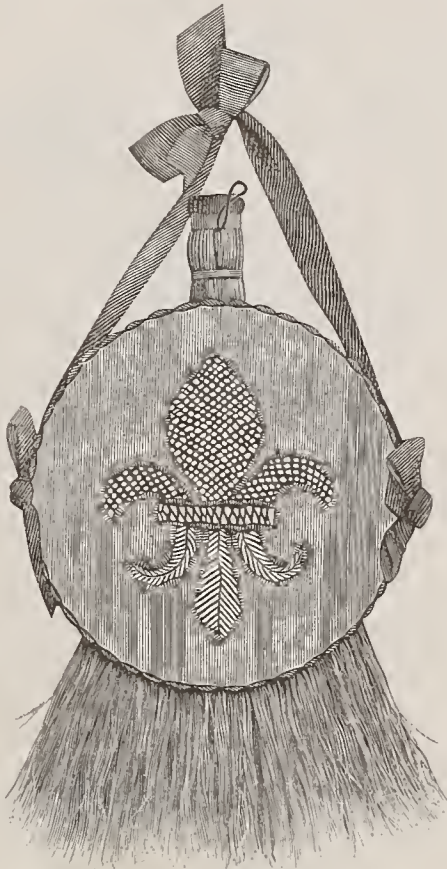
and edged with good lace, and around the waist is a deep hem through which is run a ribbon to tie around the waist. I have had the apron seven years. It cost me five dollars, and at the time I felt it was a dreadful piece of extravagance; but the lady who did the drawn-work needed the work, and I have had twice the cost out of the apron so far, and it is good for

IVORY SOAP

If you would have your husband's shirt fronts immaculate give your laundress Ivory Soap. A white soap, it washes white.



years yet, and then the drawn-work can be transferred to another apron. It is always a matter of economy for a house-keeper to have a good many aprons. They save a good dress from the worst of wear. The front breadth of many a nice dress is spotted and soiled, or the color changed by the fire; for nothing spoils a dress sooner than sitting before an open hot fire.



With the revival of many other old fashions, let us call back the one of white aprons at home. CHRISTIE IRVING.

FOR THE TABLE.

BREWIS.—This is a favorite dish with all New England people. Take the crusts of Boston brown bread, break into small pieces, pour over them one cupful of boiling water; boil to a soft mush, stirring frequently, adding more water if necessary; then add one cupful of sweet milk, a heaping tablespoonful of butter, and when it is thoroughly heated, serve with maple syrup.

SWISS CREAM.—To one pint of thick sweet cream, one half pound of soft sugar, the grated rind of one lemon and the juice of two add three glassfuls of white wine; stir all together, and place upon ice for three hours, setting the individual glasses upon ice also. A half hour before serving beat the mixture with an egg-beater, and as fast as the foam rises put it into the glasses. Serve with a maccaroon on top, and either sponge-cake or ladyfingers.

CRANBERRIES.—This delightful winter fruit is not appreciated enough. The berries should be cooked and well mashed before adding the sugar—nearly as much sugar as fruit. To make a very decorative dish they can be strained and put into a mold; but they should never be left whole to swim around in a sea of juice. What is left from a meal can be utilized next day for tarts. Make a rich paste, roll out, put little lumps of butter over it, fold once, roll thick, and bake in saucers; prick with a fork so they will not puff. Fill with cranberries, and serve half a one to each person. I sometimes put away a pint jar full when cooking them to have them to draw upon in an emergency. They are better cooked in large quantities, four or five quarts at a time; and in winter it is a saving of time and fuel to cook things in little larger quantities. BELLE KING.

ORANGE PUDDING.—Peel and slice three oranges into small pieces, lay in a dish, and put one half cupful of sugar over

them. Make a nice corn-starch of one pint of milk, yolks of two eggs, one tablespoonful of corn-starch stirred up with milk, one tablespoonful of sugar, all beaten together and stirred into scalded milk. Don't have it too thick. Pour while hot over oranges; beat the whites of two eggs, with a teaspoonful of sugar; spread over the top, and set in a quick oven to brown lightly. Bananas may be used with the oranges, or peaches may be used instead of oranges. RUBY.

Song ~ ~ ~ From the Orient.

"Double, double, toil and trouble," sang the witches as they stirred,
But I sing of richer potions than that trio ever heard,
From the coral strands of India, and from Ceylon's jeweled isle,
Comes a gift to cheer the nations, prince and peasant to beguile.

Take a teaspoonful of fragrance—'tis Ceylon and India Tea—
Like the heart of gentle maiden its unsullied purity,
As an ardent lover pleading is the water's boiling heat,
And the teapot is the altar where the youth and maiden meet.

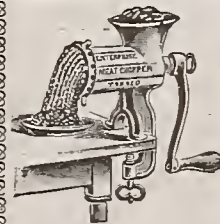
Lo! behold the transformation! minutes five, the act is done,
Power and purity are blended, and the two are now made one;
Love's bright flame hath wrought the marvel, now goes forth a wholesome life,
Soothing, comforting, refreshing, free from bitterness and strife.

Some may care for cream and sugar, loving each luxurious thing,
But perfection does not need them, crowns adorn, not make, a King.
Teas of other lands can never form a union strong and true,
Hands' unclean their power has tainted, 'tis impurity they brew.

Modern man's inventive genius to this nectar gives its aid,
And it stands to-day unequaled, by machine 'tis cured and made.
Wide Pacific, great Atlantic, bluest Mediterranean sea,
Bear to waiting millions safely, this Ceylon and India Tea!

—T. Caddy.

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SORE EYES use **Dr. ISAAC THOMPSON'S EYE WATER.**

Our Sunday Afternoon.

OUR LIFE TO BENEFIT OTHERS.

In this world of woe and sadness,
If we live for self alone,
Will our kind and heavenly Father
Love and bless us as his own?

If we live for self, not others,
Let the weary go astray.
Will our crowns be of the brightest,
On that great eternal day?

If we live for self, not others,
Though there are many by the way,
Speak no word to guide them heavenward.
What, O what, will Jesus say?

O, that we may live for others.
Cheer the weary, bless the poor,
That when here our work is ended,
We may enter heaven's door.

O, that we may live for others:
Live for self—no, not one day;
Let our acts be all of kindness,
And speak gently while we may.

THE MASTER'S TOUCH.

In the still air music lies unheard;
In the rough marble beauty lies unseen;
To make the music and the beauty needs
The master's touch, the sculptor's chisel
keen.
Great Master, touch us with thy skillful hand;
Let not the music that is in us die!
Great Sculptor, hew and polish us; nor let
Hidden and lost, thy form within us lie!
Spare not the stroke! do with us as thou wilt.
Let there be naught unfinished, broken,
marred;
Complete thy purpose, that we may become
Thy perfect image, thou our God and Lord!
—Horatius Bonar.

THE BIBLE.

No fragment of an army ever sur-
vived so many battles; no citadel
ever withheld so many sieges; no
rock was ever battered by so many
hurricanes and so swept by storms, and
yet it stands. It has seen the rise and
downfall of Daniel's four empires. As-
syria bequeathed a few mutilated figures
to the riches of our national museum.
Media and Persia, like Babylon, which
they conquered, have been weighed in the
balance and found wanting. Greece faintly
survives in its historic fame, and iron
Rome of the Caesars has long since ceased
to boast. And yet the book that foretells
all this still survives. While nations,
kings, philosophers, systems, institutions,
have died away, the Bible engages now
men's deepest thoughts, is examined by
the keenest intellects, stands revered before
the highest tribunals, is more read and
sifted and debated, more devoutly loved
and more vehemently assailed, more de-
fended and more denied, more industriously
translated and freely given to the world,
more honored and more abused, than any
other book the world ever saw. It sur-
vives all changes, itself unchanged; it
moves all minds, yet is moved by none; it
sees all things decay, itself incorruptible;
it sees myriads of other books engulfed in
the stream of time, yet it is borne along
till the mystic angel shall plant his foot
upon the sea and swear by him that liveth
forever and ever that time shall be no
longer.—H. L. Lane.

TESTIMONY FROM A NOTED ATHLETE.

The veteran pedestrian, E. Payson Wes-
ton, who at one time performed the re-
markable feat of walking one hundred
and twelve miles in twenty-four consecu-
tive hours, said recently: "When I was
walking, my purpose was to demonstrate
that the greatest physical endurance is
possible without the use of alcoholic or
other artificial stimulation. On a strictly
temperance diet I repeatedly accomplished
feats of endurance which no athlete using
stimulants has ever equaled."

AT THE UNIVERSITIES.

Some man has discovered and called gen-
eral attention to the fact that in this coun-
try the schools closed to male students
exceed in number those closed to female
students. Another man, Professor von
Hartmann, of Germany, consoles the
women who are shut out of the universi-
ties in this wise:

"The lecture-rooms seem to have a mag-
ical attraction for you. They are for you
the paradise of intelligence. Absurd mis-
take! They are much more like barracks,
where one learns mechanically the manual
of arms. I am going to tell you the great

secret—the best means of education is
reading. Let those of you who care little
about diplomas and whose sole ambition
is to cultivate your minds, stay at home
and read. Get it well into your heads
that your brothers and your future hus-
bands, who, after leaving the university,
do not read, will never be anything but
stupid ignoramuses, and that all the uni-
versities in the world are useless to a
woman who knows how to read."

AS OTHERS SEE US.

What a man gives out, not what he
keeps, determines his appearance in the
eyes of the world. Beauty, brightness,
color, consists not in what a thing keeps,
but in what it gives out. A well-known
law of optics teaches us that a thing is
seen, not in that color which it takes
in and keeps, but in that color which it
gives back again. The thing which we call
red is the one which is, in one sense, blue;
that is, it takes in the blue rays and keeps
them for itself, but gives back the red
ones in color. Gold has kept all the green
rays and gives back the yellow ones, so
we think it is yellow. The object which
we call black takes in every ray of light,
and keeps them for itself, and we have
strikingly enough seen in it the symbol
of all evil. The object which we call white
keeps nothing of the sun's rays, but gives
them all out again, and we have seen in it
the symbol of all good. So a man is seen
and known, not by what he receives and
keeps for himself, but for what he gives
forth to others. The rich man who keeps
everything for himself is seen and known
to be a poor, mean man.

WHY HE FELL.

We often wonder that certain men and
women are left to the commission of sins
which shock us. We wonder how, under
the temptation of a single hour, they fall
from the very heights of honor and virtue
into sin and shame. The fact is, that
there are no such falls as these, or next
to none. These men and women are those
who have dallied with temptation, have
exposed themselves to the influence of it,
and have been weakened and corrupted
by it. If we could get at the secret histo-
ries of those who stand suddenly discov-
ered vicious, we should find that they
had been through this most polluting pro-
cess; that they had been in the habit of
going out and meeting temptation in order
that they might enjoy its excitements; that
underneath a blameless outward life they
have welcomed and entertained sin in their
imagination until their moral sense was
blunted and they were ready for the deed
of which they thought they were inca-
pable.—Timothy Titcomb.

STRIFE.

This is a world of strife, and this an
age of much striving. The nations are
striving for possessions, the individual for
objects, until it all seems like a mad whirl
for the thing desired. Gold and silver,
honor and power, all are the weak and
beggarly things of the world, and how
small they will look to us by and by, if by
their attainment we barter life eternal.
Paul recommended "striving together for
the faith of the gospel," and from the lips
of One who spake as never man spake we
hear, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate;
for many, I say unto you, will seek to
enter in and shall not be able."

For what are you striving? For what
am I striving? For the meat which per-
isheth or that which endureth?

THINGS WORTHY OF IMITATION.

It would be worth while to imitate the
elephant in his stately quietness.
It would be worth while to imitate the
seal in his amiability.
It would be worth while to imitate the
trained dog in his patience.
It would be worth while to imitate the
bear in his affection.
It would be worth while to imitate the
camel in his willingness to assume bur-
dens.
It would be worth while to imitate the
horse in his air of good breeding.
It would be worth while to imitate the
tiger in his diplomacy.

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a Cough or Throat Trouble is "Brown's
Bronchial Troches." They possess real merit.



Steaming the Face.

A woman is as young and beautiful, or as
old and ugly, as she looks—all depends upon
her skin and complexion. **TOLKE'S VA-
PORIZING TREATMENT** quickly rids the
skin of freckles, pimples, blackheads,
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other blemishes. No true gentlewoman can
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obtaining and preserving a clear, soft, white
skin and brilliant complexion. It is used
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fectly harmless, is cleansing and purifying,
and, as it gives new life and tone to the
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those dreaded enemies of beauty.

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with my wonderful Skin-Cleansing Liquid,
which is unlike anything else ever used, is
new. The discovery of this Liquid, whose
principal ingredients are imported from
Siam, is an achievement in modern derma-
tology, for, when heated, it throws off a
medicated vapor which is the only thing
known to science that will penetrate the
pores and eradicate all unsightly blemishes
from beneath the cuticle—blemishes which
other treatments have failed to even affect.

Every intelligent person will appreciate
the hygienic principles of Tolke's Treat-
ment. No one can use it without being
wonderfully benefited; the complexion will
become clearer and whiter each day; the
skin will soon appear youthful, soft, fair
and beautiful under its vivifying influence.

Why Not Be the Favored One?

Tolke's Treatment sells at \$9.50, but, to in-
troduce it everywhere, I will give a complete
Treatment—one \$6.50 nickel-plated Face-
Steaming Vaporizer, one \$1.50 bottle of Skin-
Cleansing Liquid, one \$1.00 bottle of Beauty
Cream and three 20c. cakes of my medicated
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1 Game Nine Men Morris	1 game Pantomimes
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Smiles.

A DISGUISED BLESSING.

Love is blind and cannot read. It is well 'twas so decreed, For could he but scan the page Of our problem, novel age, He'd have long ago no doubt Closed his pretty business out.

SALLY MURMURED NOT.

Delance met Sally on the bridge, and kissed her on the spot; The brooklet murmured down below, but Sally murmured not.

—Harper's Bazar.

TASTED LEATHER AND IRON.

TALKING about a fine and discriminating taste for whisky," said the old gentleman over in the corner of the store, "recalls to my mind an incident that occurred up in the Catskills last summer. A friend of mine was entertaining a number of gentlemen who prided themselves upon their keen sense of taste in the whisky line, and subsequent events showed that they were justified in their boast. The host had just received a keg of the finest Kentucky whisky to be found, and opened it with anticipations of pleased commendation from his friends. One of them drained his glass, smacked his lips, and said critically: 'That's mighty good whisky, but I can't understand the taste of iron that goes with it.' The other one said: 'Yes, I noticed that, and also detected a slight taste of leather.' The host was quite chagrined, and when his friends had departed, determined to investigate. He emptied the keg, and there in the bottom found a small leather-covered carpet-tack."

CIRCUMLOCUTION.

Necessity is the mother of invention, and the hungry Frenchman told about in a biography recently published in England illustrates the old adage anew. He was in an English restaurant and wanted eggs for breakfast, but had forgotten the English word. So he got around the difficulty in the following way: "Valterre, vat is dat valking in de yard?" "A cock, sir." "Ah! And vat you call de cock's wife?" "The hen, sir." "And vat you call de shildrens of de cock and his wife?" "Chickens, sir." "But vat you call de shicken before dey are shicken?" "Eggs, sir." "Bring me two."—Youth's Companion.

BOTH FIXED.

Mrs. Nextdoor—"I haven't seen your parents for ever so long." Little Fannie—"Mama has got scarlet fever and cannot come out." Mrs. Nextdoor—"And what has your papa got?" Little Fannie—"He's got six months, and he can't come out, either."—London Fun.

AN INFALLIBLE SIGN.

"How do you know that his love-dream is over?" "Because I heard him tell Hetty, as they left church last night, that he knew a shorter way of reaching her home than the route they had been taking."—Detroit Free Press.

IN THE CHILKOOT PASS.

First gold-seeker—"By Jove! I've forgotten something. I think I'll have to go back." Second gold-seeker—"What have you forgotten?" First gold-seeker—"I left a rabbit's-foot at Seattle."—Puck.

OBJECTION SUSTAINED

"And after the robbery you just took a walk?" asked the prosecuting attorney. "I object," yelled the excited young lawyer for the prisoner, "to any such base insinuation. The walk was nailed down and is still there."

UNANIMOUS.

Medium—"The spirit of your wife is here, and says she never dreamed of such happiness since you two parted." The man—"Tell her I feel the same way."

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REFORM.

There was a poor man once Who had a piece to speak; He also had a plan in mind Designed to aid the weak.

All worldly goods, he said, Should be apportioned so That there might be no weak, no strong, No lofty, and no low.

But fortune smiled, and he Became a wealthy man; Therefore he had no more to say, And dropped his noble plan.

—Cleveland Leader.

TRYING.

"Say," said the dorking rooster, "what ails the family hen? She's perched on that stone over there every time I see her." "She's a peculiar person," replied the bantam rooster; "in fact, I'm afraid she's trying to work mischief, for ever since she's heard some one laid that corner-stone she's been trying to hatch it."—Adams Freeman.

LONG IN THE SERVICE.

"Don't call me a loafer, mum," protested the tired tourist, with magnificent dignity. "I'm a soldier." "A soldier?" "Yessum! I'm a member of the veteran corps of the army of the unemployed."

HE ANSWERED.

A man sent this answer to a bookseller who sent in his account for a book sometime before delivered: "I never ordered the book. If I did, you did not send it. If I got it, I paid for it. If I didn't, I won't."—Town and Country Journal.

UNDERSTOOD.

"Do you understand all the duties of a waitress?" asked the mistress. "Yes, ma'am." "Can you make mayonnaise dressing?" "No, ma'am; but I can do plain sewing."

WHAT HE SAW.

She—"See my new bonnet, dear? Isn't it a perfect love? And look how natural these flowers are." He (gloomily)—"They are. I can almost see the due upon them from here."

ACTIVE IN SPENDING.

"You didn't accompany your husband in the rush to the Klondike?" "No; but wait until he comes back with the gold; then you'll see me start out."—Detroit Free Press.

PROPHETIC.

"Slaughtered!" groaned Messala, as Ben-Hur drove over him. "Slaughtered to make a Hoosier holiday!" Then unconsciousness came upon him like a poultice.

ODD AND ENDS.

Where should a postman be hurried? Why, in the posterypt.—Moonshine. Teacher—"Bobby, give an example of the double negative." Bobby—"I don't know none."—Cincinnati Enquirer. Mr. Absentminded (in a barber shop)—"It is pretty cold in here." Barber—"Yes, sir; it is chilly this morning." Mr. Absentminded—"If you have no objection, I'll keep on my hat while you are cutting my hair."—Tit-Bits.

"Witness, what is your opinion of the defendant's veracity?" asked a Kentucky lawyer of Farmer Owensboro. "I don't know as I care to be quoted on that point, judge, but I heard him say once that when he lived in Georgy he used to shave with a razor-backed hog."—New York World. A customer dropped into a bookseller's, the other day and asked for a copy of "The Lady of the Aroostook." The clerk seemed to be in some doubt about the title, but after a moment's consultation with another salesman, he came forward and said blandly, "So sorry, we haven't got 'The Lady or the Rooster,' but we can give you 'The Lady or the Tiger.'"—The Bookman.

"I am more than pleased with your beautiful book, 'American Women,'" writes Capt. H. S. La Tourrette, Winchester, Illinois, one of the most successful canvassers in that state. "I shall read every word of it, and can show the book with zeal and enthusiasm. I like it thoroughly. It is very valuable as well as exquisitely fine, especially its pictorial features."

Our Miscellany.

THE LADY OR THE TIGER?

Dear Jack—Come up to-night at nine.
Mama and pa are out to dine;
So I'm alone, oh, sweetheart mine!
Your ever-loving Angeline.

Dear Jack—Come up this eve at ten
And bring your wad to Bucken's den,
We've got to bust that game, ye ken.
Yours, faroistically, Ben.

—Judge.

WILD TURKEYS LIVING WITH A TAME FLOCK.

Turkeys are so plentiful that it is nothing uncommon to hear of their coming to roost at farm-houses, alongside the domestic birds. Mr. P. M. Yeager, living at Traveller's Repose, W. Va., and twenty-five miles west of Monterey, has six wild ones running with his tame flock. These, however, have a little romance connected with them that does not often come into the life of a turkey.

One day last spring Mr. Yeager and his daughter, Miss Pearl, went from their home to a "club-house," several miles distant, and situated in the solitudes of Cheat mountain. Fishing down one of the mountain streams for trout, they unexpectedly flushed a covey of wild turkeys, consisting of the mother bird and a nestful of little fellows. The old one flew away to a safe distance, while the little ones, true to their nature, scrambled away and hid among the ferns. Six of them were made captives, and it was decided to take them home, but how was it to be done successfully? Miss Pearl dropped them into the capacious and mysterious depth of her bonnet, and bore them in triumph to the farm-yard, where they were again to see the light and make their future home. The tiny fellows took kindly to their new existence and soon made fast friends of their new neighbors. Months have come and gone, and they are now full-grown, noble fellows, fit to grace the table of a king.—Richmond Dispatch.

ANTICS OF A TAME WILDCAT.

A tame wildcat from the northern Minnesota woods has been sent to Mr. Mathison, of 171 Randolph street. The cat, which is as large as a good-sized bulldog, and according to the claims of its proud owner, could whip an even dozen of those iron-jawed beasts in as many minutes, is as docile as a little kitten.

The thing was captured when so small its eyes had hardly opened, by Trapper James Wilson, whose log cabin is situated in the wilds of the Minnesota woods surrounding Sturgeon Lake, and he trained it for thirteen months, feeding it on cooked beef, milk, and bread, and to-day, in its new Chicago home, it plays about the office in amusing gentleness, stands gravely in the window gazing with wondering eyes out upon the street, with its multitude of horses and wagons, or starts in its brisker moods on a wild career of leaping about the office. A jump of a seven-foot partition is not quite the limit of its endeavors, and a spring of ten or eleven feet from the top of a desk to a distant stack of boxes, landing without causing the pile to topple over, is one of its feats.—Chicago Daily News.

PROF. TROWBRIDGE'S POWERFUL ELECTRIC APPARATUS.

For the past two years Prof. Trowbridge, director of the Jefferson physical laboratory of Harvard, has been perfecting a battery for electrical discharges. It is now the most powerful apparatus of its kind in the world, and has already been used in several investigations of the X-ray. It is the only battery strong enough to send a discharge through an X-ray tube; all other batteries send the spark around the tube. It has been used repeatedly to show the skeleton of the hand. An idea of its power can be had from the fact that it has a voltage of 1,200,000, and the voltage required to run an electric car is only 500. This instrument can evolve a spark fifty inches in length, and in doing so gives a loud report like lightning.

Prof. Trowbridge has lately been able to prove by this apparatus that the length of the spark is accurately proportional to the voltage. This fact, which has long been doubted by various German scientists, can be used to ascertain the voltage required to send a flash of lightning a given distance.—Boston Daily Globe.

WORKS BOTH WAYS.

"Yoh kain't set down no fixed rule o' conduct in disher life," said Uncle Eben. "Sampson got inter trouble 'case he done got 'is h'ah out, an' Absalom got inter trouble 'case he didn't."

READER—If you want to know where you can find good land, capable of the widest range of cultivation and sure of yielding big crops, read the advertisement of "The Southland Co.," in this issue, on page 7. We feel sure there is no better place to secure a good home than in Georgia, and on the lands of "The Southland Co.," which they offer for sale on very easy terms.

IMPUDENCE CAUGHT.

Sarabji, a princess of India, is among the visitors at the fair. In Bombay she supports a school for native children, and is a scholar and poet, as well as a philanthropist. She speaks English fluently, and is frequently amused at the comments made by ill-bred Americans. The "Tribune" says she relates a cable-car incident as follows: "As she took a seat in the car, a fat woman adorned with cheap jewelry flopped down in the seat next to her. Turning to her companion, a little man, the large woman sneeringly exclaimed in tones loud enough to be heard all around, 'I suppose I'll have to set next to this thing.' The princess quietly replied, 'Don't be alarmed, madam. I am no savage, and will not hurt you.' Whereupon the fat woman said to the little man, 'My goodness, she can talk English. Who would have ever have thought it?'"

FIRST DAISIES IN THE SOUTH PLANTED BY SHERMAN.

A Southern man says the daisy was never known in the South until after the war. Now every part of the South visited by the Union army is covered with daisies. "Sherman brought them to us," he said, "and the march to the sea can be followed in the summer time by keeping where the daisies grow. The seeds seem to have been transported in the hay that was brought along to feed the horses. This is the only explanation that has been made of it."—Savannah Press.

SILVER IN MANUFACTURE.

The most striking trade effect of cheaper silver has been the astonishing increase in the variety of articles made of the metal. The making of plated ware, which in former years was such a flourishing industry, has been greatly crippled. The genuine article has got within the reach of almost every one.

The Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville Ry. (Monon Route) are now members of the Mileage Ticket Bureau, and all interchangeable books, with or without the name of the Monon on them, are good on all C. H. & D. and Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville trains.

FOREIGN BODIES IN THE EYE.

Small substance, like cinders, dust or small chips of stone or metal, can often be removed from the eye by very simple means. Sometimes the flow of tears washes them out. At other times catching the upper lid by the lashes, and pulling it away from the eye-ball and down over the lower lid, then letting it go, so that, as it recedes, its under surface is swept by the edge of the lower lid, will clear it out. If this does not prove successful, a loop made of a horse-hair, or of a long human hair, can be passed under the lid, and swept from the outward side toward the nose and drawn down. Better than this, however, is the washing of the eye or flushing with the eye-dropper. Every person should carry one in his traveling, for they are invaluable. Have the patient catch hold of the lower lid, drawing it away from the eye, and then fill the dropper, which is like a small syringe, with water, and flush the eye two or three times. This will always remove the cinder at once. Should lime get into the eye, it should be treated in the same manner, first with water, and then with vinegar or lemon-juice and water—a teaspoonful of vinegar or lemon-juice to a teacupful of water—poured over the eyeball.

HUGE TREE IN MEXICO.

A huge cypress-tree in Tule, in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, is 154 feet in circumference.

THE YANKEE FIRE-KINDLER Builds 100 fires worth of oil. No kindlings. Warranted 3 years. Greatest seller for agents ever invented. Sample with terms prepaid 15c. Yankee Kindler Co., Olney, Ill., 27 M St.

WOMEN Make \$2 to \$10 a Day selling our Mackintosh Dress Skirts, new dress shields, etc. Cat. Free. Ladies' Supply Co., 3118 Forest Ave., Chicago

\$525 Agents profits per month. Will prove it or pay forfeit. New articles just out. A \$1.50 sample and terms free. Try us. CHIDESTER & SOX, 28 Bond St., N. Y.

TRY IT FREE for 30 days in your own home and save \$10 to \$20. No money in advance. \$60 Kenwood Machine for \$23.00 \$50 Arlington Machine for \$19.50 Singers (Made by us) \$9, \$11.50, \$15 and 27 other styles. All attachments FREE. We pay freight. Buy from factory. Save agents large profits. Over 100,000 in use. Catalogue and testimonials free. Write at once. Address (in full), GASH BUYERS' UNION 158-164 West Van Buren St., B-7, Chicago, Ill.

Second Hand Material

of every description; also New Material procured from sheriff, assignee and receiver's sales. Barbed wire, smooth wire, Nails, Iron Roofing, Water Piping, Pig and Sheep Tronchs, Hose, Lumber, Casing, in fact almost everything. Big reduction from usual prices. L38 Catalogue FREE on application. Chicago Housewrecking Co., 35th and Iron Streets, Chicago.

Can You Talk Business?

Can you talk it to your neighbors? Can you talk it to other people whom you may meet? If you can and have a little time to spare we can put you in the way of making a great deal of money during the winter. Pleasant, respectable and honorable employment. Absolutely no cash outlay required. Exclusive territory to good men. Address: A. F., P. O. Box 301, Indianapolis, Indiana.

A Wonderful Talking Machine.

Perfection has at last surely been reached in talking machines. The latest and most perfect machine has just come out. It is loud and clear and reproduces your own or any voice over and over again; speeches from the most noted statesmen, songs from the world's greatest singers, music from the greatest bands. The price of this wonderful machine is but \$10.00, and it affords a wonderful opportunity for those who wish to give public entertainments. This machine is now controlled by, and catalogue and full particulars can be had from, SEARS, ROEBUCK & Co., Chicago. Just cut this notice out and send to them for a book telling all about it.

KEY WEST
FREE WITH 50 CIGARS
Introduce our cigars and we will give free to every purchaser of 50 cigars of our KEY WEST brand at \$2.50 one of these beautiful
18 K KLONDIKE GOLD PLATED
stem wind and stem set watches, the latest genuine AMERICAN WATCH on the market; warranted to keep correct time for 5 years, equal in appearance to any \$25.00 gold filled watch, open face, gold or boys' size only, also gold plated chain and charm free. Cut this out and send it to us with your name and address and we will send you the same package 50 of our celebrated Key West brand of cigars and this handsome watch and chain by express C. O. D. for examination. If after examination you consider it the greatest bargain you ever saw pay the express agent \$2.50 and express charges and the goods are yours. Address: NATIONAL CONSOLIDATED CO., 36 STATE STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

OUR GIANT ALMANAC

The Farm and Fireside's Giant Almanac and Annual Reference Book (450 pages) will be ready for delivery during the first week of January, 1898. It will be an absolutely reliable authority on political, agricultural, commercial, financial, educational, religious and miscellaneous subjects and statistics in general. Price, with Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cts. Send orders now. First come, first served.

SAVE MONEY.

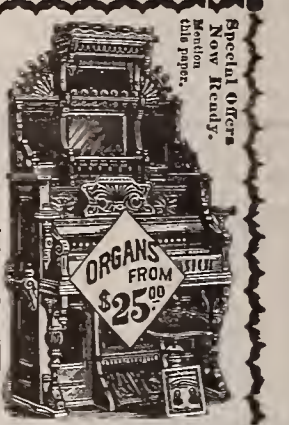


FREE! FREE!

Catalogue contains our 1898 models of the Celebrated Cornish American Pianos and Organs, over 50 styles to select from. Mention this paper and the catalogue will be sent FREE with postage paid. REMEMBER we are the only firm of actual manufacturers selling exclusively to the general public direct, at factory cost—the only firm where you get exact value for your money. There are no agents, dealers' or middlemen's profits added.

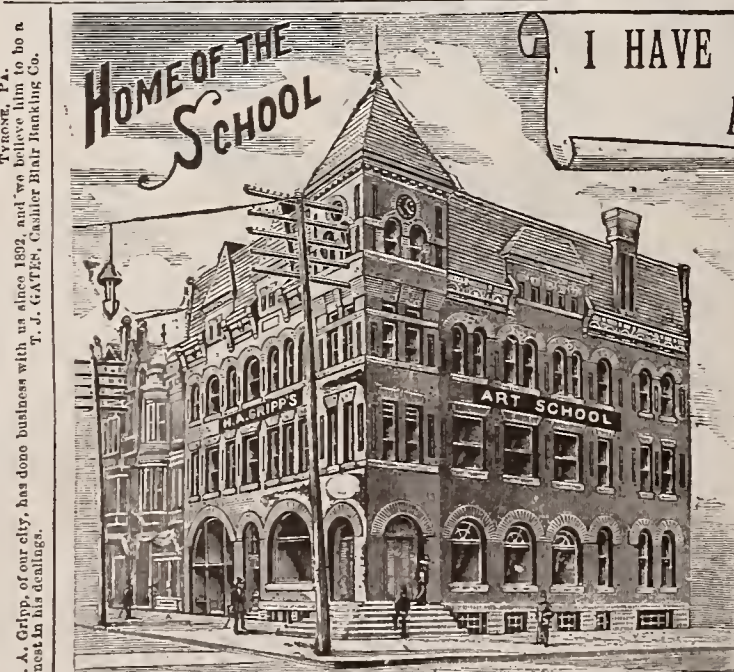
CASH OR ON EASY PAYMENTS. To suit your circumstances, Pianos and Organs shipped on thirty days' trial in your own home under our special warrant required in advance. Safe delivery REFERENCES:—Our bank, your bank, any bank, the editor of this paper, or any of the multitude of patrons who have purchased millions of dollars worth of instruments from us during the past 35 years. Our new book "The Heart of the People," containing a thousand recent references, sent free. Don't fail to write at once to
CORNISH & CO., (Makers of American Pianos and Organs.)

Send for our 1898 Souvenir Art Catalogue with colored frontispiece, representing an Ancient Egyptian Choir—originally painted for us by a renowned artist and reproduced in fac-simile—The new Catalogue contains our 1898 models of the Celebrated Cornish American Pianos and Organs, over 50 styles to select from. Mention this paper and the catalogue will be sent FREE with postage paid. REMEMBER we are the only firm of actual manufacturers selling exclusively to the general public direct, at factory cost—the only firm where you get exact value for your money. There are no agents, dealers' or middlemen's profits added.



To Whomsoever It May Concern:—I, the undersigned, take pleasure in saying that Mr. H. A. Grupp, the German artist, of Tyrone, Pa., has furnished my wife with work amounting from \$30 to \$35 a month since she has learned to do satisfactory work.

MR. H. A. GRUPP, Tyrone, Pa.—Dear Teacher and Friend: At the beginning of my letter I want to thank you over and over again for the abundance of work I have received during the past eight months. I have been, to quote an expression from one of your other pupils, "snowed under with work from Mr. Grupp." Once I wrote for the work to stop as I was sick and could not finish the work rapidly enough. I received none for a week only and then it came pouring in again. In two days I received \$30.00 worth of work. Oh! dear Mr. Grupp, I can never show you how I appreciate your goodness. Some of my friends thought that because I lived so far away I would not get any work, but I am so glad I can say they were mistaken. I am learning to work so much faster, too, and if my friends did not trouble me, I could make \$50.00 every week at home in a comfortable room, sitting at my easel, and in the evenings, during the summer I take a long walk, horseback ride, or drive, for exercise, come home refreshed and not worn out from my day's work. Now look, on the other side, at the millions of shop girls, seamstresses, school teachers, typewriters, etc., and their daily routine of hard labor. No, I would not change with any, and if every young girl knew of your work there would be fewer in other vocations. But as you well know, there are so many fraudulent advertisements nowadays, that the much imposed upon public are loth to believe the truth when they do see it. If you wish, Mr. Grupp, you may publish this letter and perhaps it will influence some one. If any one wishes to ask anything concerning the school and will enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope I will gladly answer all questions. Again thanking you for your liberality, I remain,
Your grateful student,
LELLA MAUD LESLIE.



MEN AND WOMEN
I send a Crayon Portrait free of charge as a guide to each student.
I send to each of my students a Crayon Portrait of any person. The best is of some one dear to you, or of some one you know well, because you would learn quicker on a face you know. Also do I send you a print of this person, for you to finish, with all material and instruction. The Portrait will be a sure guide for anyone and is painted the same as my instruction teaches, and as Portrait and Print are of the same Photograph, any person can do the work, if they only try. Send for my book at once, it will be sent to you the same day when I receive your letter or card, so that you do not need to wait too long for the work.

Address plainly, H. A. GRUPP, German Artist, Dept. F, Grupp Building, Tyrone, Pa.

I HAVE WORK FOR YOU AT YOUR HOME.
Read the following very carefully, it will keep yourself and your home.
PAYING EMPLOYMENT AT YOUR HOME.—Explanation.
I have agents in every State of the Union and Canada, also do I furnish newspapers, magazines, and stores with Crayon Portraits which they give to their customers as premiums. I am under contract to furnish two of our leading magazines with Crayon Portraits; one magazine in New York with 50,000, and the other in Washington, D. C., with 40,000 11x17 Crayon Portraits. I am considering additional contracts. My experience has been, for the last five years, to teach good, reliable parties at their homes, and send my work to them or let them come to my studio.
HOW CAN I DO IT? In the first place I teach them my own method, and so can depend on their doing good work rapidly, thus saving money for myself. My method is easy—a child can learn it. I would be pleased to have you take up a branch of my work, which consists in the making of Crayon Portraits. These portraits are pictures which my agents, magazines, etc., send me to enlarge, and are copied in Crayon by the aid of my copyrighted print system.
You can send your Print back just as soon as you can finish it. If you have the time, finish it the first day, and if fairly done I will return the print the same day with a box of work, and payment for same. You do not need to practice all day, but only one hour, or less time; and after I have taught you I can get my work cheaper by you than if I employed a first-class artist at a big salary. This is the reason I can offer my work to agents, etc., cheaper than others, and I have agents in every State and Canada, and at the same time you can make fair wages from the start. An ordinary person can earn eight to sixteen dollars weekly, some do better still. You can execute the work by day or lamp light, it can be taken up and laid aside at will.
If you will engage with me, I do not ask you to give me ten hours a day of your time, but whatever time you can spare. No matter if you can spare but an hour a day so long as you do spare it. The work calls for no special talent, and if a person can read and is willing to follow my instructions, I guarantee you success from the start.
I have issued a little book which will instruct you how I send my work, and explains how to finish the work, and how much I pay for each print. Also gives name and address of lots of my students, who have learned and are working for me now all over the United States and Canada. If you really wish to make some money in spare time or devote all your spare time to the work, send for the book at once and I will send it free of charge.
This is no bogus advertisement, but necessary for me to engage good persons to work for me and a godsend for many homes.



To Whom It May Concern:—The reputation of H. A. Grupp, German Artist, of this place, is such, that he will make every honest effort to carry out all his promises.
J. C. GILLMAN, Mayor.

Selections.

THE BABY.

Who in the household has such sway
That all his high behests obey
And no one dares to say him nay?
The baby.

Who never walks, but always rides
In a gay coach with gilded sides,
O'er which a female groom presides?
The baby.

Who, when he goes to take the air,
Is swathed in white till I declare
He looks like a young polar-bear?
The baby.

Who's "booful" and has tootsies, too,
Mysteries that neither I nor you
Nor Noah Webster ever knew?
The baby.

Who has had nurses four or five,
Sad drones in our domestic hive—
The sixth, I fear, will soon arrive?
The baby.

Who has the colic in the night,
And puts his mother in a fright
Till paregoric sets him right?
The baby.

Who is, although he breaks our rest
And gives my patience many a test,
The thing on earth that we love best?
The baby.

—W. R. Barber, in New York Ledger.

WOMEN WHO OVERDRESS.

The evil in feminine dress of to-day lies not with our rich women, but with our women of average means. The wealthy woman rarely overdresses; the average woman far more often, and she stamps herself by that very indiscretion. It is not the mistress who overdresses so much as it is her servant who tries to imitate her. The nice and refined woman, the woman of taste, are not the purchasers of the showy dress patterns and misfit hats which we see in the shop-windows. Just in proportion as a woman is refined in her nature is she quiet in her dress. A refined woman never dresses loudly. The present tendency in red is not followed by girls and women of refinement. It is affected by those who forget that red is the most trying color which a woman can wear becomingly, and that there is no color of which one so soon tires. Only a few women can choose a perfect shade in red, and those are, as a rule, not the women who wear it.

A GOOD THING TO REMEMBER.

An unmarried woman in writing to the "New York Herald," in answer to the question, "Why don't men marry?" remarks that neither sex belongs exclusively to the "angel nor devil family." If married folks always bore that in mind perhaps wives would receive more reward for good deeds, and husbands more mercy for bad ones, and there would be fewer unhappy marriages.

DON'T THINK OF YOURSELF.

If you wish to be miserable, you must think about yourself, about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay you; and then to you nothing will be pure. You will spoil everything you touch; you will make sin and misery for yourself out of everything which God sends you; you will be as wretched as you choose.—Charles Kingsley.

THEY WORE MANY RINGS.

The hands of female mummies found in the tombs of Egypt, are literally covered with rings, in many instances there being from two to six on every finger. In some cases these ornaments are composed wholly of gold, but in others, which probably represent all that is left of some poor man's wife or daughter, the rings are brass, glass or pottery-ware.

DRUNKENNESS IS A DISEASE.

Will send free Book of Particulars how to cure "Drunkenness or the Liquor Habit" with or without the knowledge of the patient. Address Dr. J. W. Haines, No. 439 Race Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"My cloth-bound volume of 'American Women' came this morning. I went right to work and took four orders in a little while, all for the cloth style. I think it a grand book. Am sure of making the canvass a great success. It is so pleasant to handle something that people really like the minute they see it."—Mrs. F. M. Doolittle, Springfield, Mo.

NO-TO
BAC

MADE A MAN OF ME!

NO-TO
BAC

OVER 400,000

Men, former tobacco-slaves, unite in the one grand chorus "NO-TO-BAC made a man of me." Most of them were wrecks of men, skinny, sallow, listless, old before their time, and unable to enjoy the good things of life. Now they are manly, magnetic, prosperous men, many of them young again after having mourned the feelings of youth as lost forever. It is never too late. After years of excess and tobacco-slavery, No-To-Bac comes to the rescue of the weakened nerve-centers, builds them up, nourishes the system, expels the tobacco-poison, and makes man new again. **TOBACCO USER!** Read what a few of the rescued say about NO-TO-BAC, and learn wisdom from their EXPERIENCE.

TESTIMONIALS.

Truly A Wonder.

A user of tobacco for the last thirty-five years, I have been a perfect slave to the habit. On Dec. 26th, 1895, I commenced using NO-TO-BAC. Before I had taken one box I was entirely cured of the appetite for tobacco. NO-TO-BAC is truly a wonder.
T. C. MARSH, De Grey, S. D.

New Vigor for a Chicago Lawyer.

For twenty-three years I was an inveterate smoker, and as a result I frequently suffered from intense nervous prostrations, to such an extent as to take the savor out of existence. Three boxes of NO-TO-BAC cured me and I am now enjoying health and the vigor that I have been a stranger to since boyhood.
V. E. V. HUNT,
Ass't City Prosecutor Chicago, Ill.

To-Night's the Night.

I smoked and chewed excessively for 45 years. June 1st I took first NO-TO-BAC tablet. Up-to-date I have not touched tobacco. I sleep well, splendid appetite, tongue like an infant, bowels regular and have gained 11 pounds. I have 57 years to the good and feel to-night about 30 years. In fact I am delighted.
DR. T. W. KENNEDY,
Rio Grande City, Texas.

Worth a Dollar Per Tablet.

I cannot find words to express my appreciation of the benefits obtained by the use of NO-TO-BAC. I smoked 100 stogies per week for twenty years; had a tobacco heart; craved tobacco all the time, but one box of NO-TO-BAC has made me feel better than I have for years. No-To-Bac instead of a dollar a box is worth a dollar per tablet.
D. R. BANKS,
Whitfield, W. Va.

Worth \$10,000 to Him.

Just one year ago to-day I quit the use of tobacco and began taking NO-TO-BAC. My cure is permanent. I was a hard smoker, using pipe, cigars and worst of all, cigarettes, and my nervous system was in a bad state. Your wonderful NO-TO-BAC has made a new man of me. \$10,000.00 to-day would not tempt me to smoke a cigar and resume the use of tobacco. I hope this will induce some poor victim of the tobacco habit to give it up and become a man.
WALTER L. BROWN,
16 Star St., Pawtucket, R. I.



TESTIMONIALS.

New Nerves for Him.

For ten years I used tobacco to excess, especially chewing, and made several ineffectual attempts to quit, but suffered so severely from nervous reaction that I was obliged to return to tobacco. Two boxes of NO-TO-BAC, used according to directions, performed a perfect cure. I also gained in weight.
A. G. DUNKELL,
426 E. 129th St., New York, N. Y.

Best Thing On Earth.

Let me tell you what one box of NO-TO-BAC did for me. For eight years I chewed tobacco, 15 cts. worth a day, and got so bad I was ashamed to wait on my customers. NO-TO-BAC has cured me, and besides I have gained 25 lbs. in a little over a month. NO-TO-BAC is the best thing on earth.
HARVEY ALEXANDER,
Bunker Hill, Ill.

Dr. Morgan's Wife Happy.

You may add my testimonial to the efficacy of NO-TO-BAC. I have been a user of tobacco for 32 years and tried many times, ineffectually, to stop. Am only half through with the first box but have no desire for tobacco and even detest the odor. Another wife is made happy and thanks you sincerely for what NO-TO-BAC has done in my case.
C. R. MORGAN, M. D.,
526 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Doctor Now Enjoys Life.

After using NO-TO-BAC I am happy to say that my desire for filthy tobacco is gone. I had used the weed, both chewing and smoking, for twenty-five years, using a ten-cent plug of strong tobacco daily. I had become so nervous that I had to use both hands when I took a drink; now my nerves are steady, my weight has increased, and life is more enjoyable in every way.
C. STEDDAM, M. D., Monroe, O.

A Great Blessing.

NO-TO-BAC has proved a great blessing to me. It is now sixteen months since I have tasted tobacco, and NO-TO-BAC saved my life for tobacco was killing me. It also saved me \$52.00, which otherwise I would have expended for tobacco. Nine of my acquaintances have also used NO-TO-BAC and quit. It works like a charm.
ELLSWORTH STILLIS,
Co. E, 18th Reg., U. S. Inf't.,
Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

NO-TO-BAC

THE GREATEST NERVE-BUILDER IN THE WORLD.

Is sold by all druggists or mailed for price, under absolute guarantee to cure or money refunded; single box, \$1; three boxes, \$2.50. Why remain a prematurely old, tobacco-soaked apology of a man, when you can get a quick, permanent cure by taking NO-TO-BAC, and be restored to vitality and true manhood, without any physical or financial risk. If you want to try NO-TO-BAC before you buy, write us and we will gladly send our booklet and sample free. Address

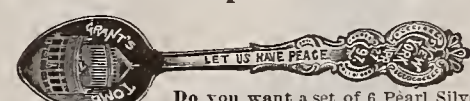
STERLING REMEDY COMPANY, CHICAGO; MONTREAL, CAN.; OR NEW YORK.

NO-TO
BAC

MAKES WEAK MEN STRONG

NO-TO
BAC

6 Dollar Spoons FREE



Do you want a set of 6 Pearl Silver Memorial Coffee Spoons FREE. They have Gold Plated Bowls. The designs represent Santa Claus, Niagara Falls and Grant's Tomb, two of each kind in a set. At Niagara they have sold as souvenirs at \$1.00 each or \$5.00 for six. On Grant's day thousands were unable to get the Grant's Tomb Spoon at any price. They are made of solid "Pearl Silver," and plated with Sterling Silver, over which the bowl is plated with Gold. No boy or girl could make their mother a more desirable present. Write us a letter stating you will sell 12 of our Patent, Indestructible, Non-explosive, Double Feed, Smokeless Lamp Wicks at 10 cents each, and return the money (\$1.20), we will send you the Wicks, and when you sell the Wicks and return the money we will send you the 6 Spoons as represented above. Wicks unsold (if any) to be returned. This liberal offer is made to introduce our Wicks. They are the best made and everybody will buy them as soon as their good qualities are known. Address KIRTLAND WICK CO., 111 Nassau Street, N. Y.

WANTED RELIABLE MEN!

local or traveling, to introduce a new discovery and keep our show cards tacked up on trees, fences and bridges throughout town and country; steady employment, commission or salary; \$65 per month and expenses, not to exceed \$2.50 per day. Money deposited in any bank at start if desired; write for particulars. THE GLOBE MEDICAL & ELECTRIC CO., Buffalo, N. Y.

FREE WATCH

Send address on postal and we mail you a lot of Gold Plated Jewelry to sell among friends. When sold, you send money and we mail a new winding, Gold Plated openface Watch and Chain, or you keep half the money instead of watch. By sending you agree to pay for or return jewelry on demand. Write your name, Mr., Miss or Mrs., or we cannot send. Ad. Dept. 23, N. Y. T. Co., 529 East 116th Street.



Great Drop in Drugs.

DEAR EDITOR. We are selling almost every known drug and remedy, every known instrument and appliance, at lowest wholesale prices. Some remedies others sell as high as \$1.00 to \$2.00, our price is 25 cents. Our special Drug Catalogue will be sent free postpaid to any of your readers who will cut this notice out and send to us. Very truly,
SEARS, ROEBUCK & Co., Chicago, Ill.

WRITERS WANTED to do copying at home. Law College, Lima, O.

CANCER CURED

WITH SOOTHING BALMY OILS
Cancer, Tumor, Catarrh, Piles, Fistula, Eczema, and All Skin and Womb Diseases.

Cancer of the nose, eye, lip, ear, neck, breast, stomach, womb—in fact, all internal or external organs or tissues, cured without knife or burning plasters, but soothing aromatic oils. Cut this out and send it for an illustrated book on the above diseases. Address, DR. B. F. BYE, P. O. Box 246, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

LEARN TO HYPNOTIZE

You can make the weak as strong as a lion, or the bully as timid as a child. You can cure disease or bad habits, cause others to "come" to you, love and obey you. Every wish gratified. I guarantee success. Lesson, postpaid, 10 cents. Address, Prof. J. B. HERRIN, Box 55, Pesotum, Ill.

PILES

Absolutely cured. Never to return. A Boon to Sufferers. Acts like Magic. Trial box MAILED FREE. Address, Dr. E. M. BOTOT, Augusta, Maine.

BED-WETTING CURED or no pay. Mrs. B. Rowan, Milwaukee, Wis.

FREE the latest catalogue of cut-paper patterns. Address Farm and Fireside, Springfield, O.

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In every town and neighborhood to solicit subscriptions for the

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Extra liberal commissions, and special helps furnished, including the most successful premiums. Good income assured workers.

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BEAUTY CORSET FREE

The secret of beauty in face and form sent free to every lady answering this advertisement. If you want a form divine you should get a pair of Beauty Corsets. We give them absolutely free. If you send the correct waist measure we guarantee a perfect fit. Write at once to

Beauty Corset Co., Station "O" N. Y. City

BACO-CURO

Don't Stop Tobacco

Suddenly rack the nerves. Take BACO-CURO, the only cure while using tobacco. 50c. or \$1 boxes. 3 boxes (Guaranteed Cure) \$2.50; of Druggists or of us.

It Gently Weans.

EUREKA CHEMICAL AND MFG. CO., La Crosse, Wis.

ARE YOU TOO FAT?



You can reduce your weight by a simple remedy. Anyone can make it at home. Mrs. H. Weber, Marietta, Ohio, whose photo accompanies this ad, says: "It reduced me 40 lbs. and improved my health wonderfully." No starving; no sickness. Sample box and particulars sent for five 2 cent stamps to cover postage, packing, etc. Add. HALL CHEM. CO. B Box, St. Louis, Mo.



VITAL CONES CURE

YOUNG, MIDDLE-AGED and OLD MEN in all stages of Nervous Exhaustion without internal medicine. Sample package of the best Modern Treatment FREE. Send statement of case, age, and 10c for postage, etc. Address The LaCroix Dispensary Milwaukee, Wis. [Estab. 1867.]

OUR GIANT ALMANAC Farm and Fireside's Giant Almanac and Annual Reference Book (450 pages) will be ready for delivery during the first week in January, 1898. It will be an absolutely reliable authority on political, agricultural, commercial, financial, educational, religious and miscellaneous subjects and statistics in general. Price, with Farm and Fireside one year, 50 cents. Send orders now. First come, first served.

HEADACHE FROM ANY CAUSE QUICKLY CURED. IF YOU ARE A SUFFERER WRITE FOR CIRCULAR AND FREE TRIAL PACKAGE. ADDRESS, THE ANTHONY REMEDY CO., HEMPSTEAD, N. Y.

A SAMPLE sufficient to prove that Dr. Hebra's Ungoid is a certain and absolute cure for Itching Piles, Eczema, Tetter, or any other skin disease will be sent to any one for Only Four Cents. THE C. G. BITTNER CO., Toledo, Ohio.



FREE TO BALD HEADS.

We will mail on application, free information how to grow hair upon a bald head, stop falling hair, and remove scalp diseases. Address, **Altenheim Medical Dispensary** Dept. J.S., Box 779, Cincinnati, O.

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Dr. Hair's cure has brought happiness to sufferers. A \$1.00 bottle and valuable treatise sent free, you pay the expressage. Address, Dept. 160, **DR. B. W. HAIR, Cincinnati, O.**

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and Liquor Habit cured in 10 to 20 days. No pay till cured. **Dr. J. L. Stephens, Dept. A, Lebanon, Ohio.**

GOLD Dr. Dunnell's Croup, Sore Throat and Cough Powder. Best in the world. Ask your dealer for it, or by mail 25c. **DUNNELL MED. CO., Scranton, Pa.**

PILES CURED and **CONSTIPATION** quickly cured. Sufferers will learn of a simple remedy free by addressing **Prof. Fowler, Moodus, Conn.**

GANGER CURED at HOME No Pain. Book Mailed FREE. **MASON CO., 557 A, Fifth Ave., N. Y.**

FITS A Great Remedy Discovered. Send for a FREE package & let it speak for itself. Postage 5c. **DR. S. PERKINS, Chicago, Ills.**

RUPTURE CURED. Send for a FREE package & let it speak for itself. Postage 5c. **DR. S. PERKINS, Chicago, Ills.**

BED WETTING CURED. Sample FREE. **DR. F. E. MAY, Bloomington, Ill.**

Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water

Gleanings.

SIBERIA NOT A WHEAT-RAISING COMPETITOR.

During my trip in Canada I have repeatedly been asked whether there is any probability that Siberia should soon become a great wheat-exporting country, capable to compete with the wheat-belts of the States and Canada. And now I am asked on different sides whether there is any truth in the statement of the Russian minister of ways and communications, Prince Hilkoft, to the effect that "Siberia never has produced and never will produce wheat and rye enough to feed the Siberian population"—this statement having been quoted by Mr. C. Wood Davis in this month's "Forum," in a very interesting article on "The Impending Deficiency of Breadstuffs." With regard to the past it is perfectly true; and with regard to the future it may have been put in a somewhat too absolute form, but it is substantially correct.

There are in Siberia vast parts of the territory upon which wheat and rye can be grown to the same extent as wheat is now grown in Dakota and Manitoba. But there are also four wide regions where mining, which is already carried on to a considerable extent, is sure to take in a near future a still more considerable development—namely, the Altai, the Yeniseisk region, Transbaikalia, and the Amur region. There are, moreover, the Kirghiz Steppe and partly the Middle Urals which depend for breadstuffs upon Siberia; and there are a half million natives who already consume more breadstuffs than they can possibly produce. Altogether, it appears from very careful modern researches that the grain-exporting capacities of the Russian empire have been very much exaggerated. The considerable quantities of grain which are exported at the present time do not represent a corresponding surplus of production over and above the needs of the population; and the latest researches tend to prove more and more that the yearly consumption of wheat and rye to the head of population in Russia would no more than equal the annual consumption of wheat to the head in western Europe if no wheat and rye were at all exported and the total crop of these two cereals were consumed within Russia itself.—New York Evening Post.

THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS.

Speaking of the dedication of the national cemetery, at Gettysburg, and Mr. Lincoln's famous address delivered on that occasion, November 19, 1863, Governor Curtin began by saying that there had been much discussion as to how and when that address was written, and he continued:

"I can tell you all about that. Of course I was there, and the president and his cabinet had arrived and were at the hotel. Soon after his arrival, as we were sitting around in the parlor, Mr. Lincoln looked thoughtful for a moment or two, and then said: 'I believe, gentlemen, the committee are expecting me to say something here to-day. If you will excuse me I will go into this room here and prepare it.' After a time he returned, holding in his hand a large, yellow government envelop, on which he had written his address.

"Here, gentlemen," he said, 'I want to read this to you to see if it will do,' and, sitting down, he read it to us, and then said: 'Now for your criticisms. Will it do? What do you say?'

"Several spoke in favor of it, and one or two commended it in strong terms. 'Well,' says the president, 'haven't you any criticisms? What do you say, Seward?'

"Mr. Seward made one or two suggestions bearing on some slight verbal changes, which, I believe Mr. Lincoln incorporated.

"Now, if you will allow me, gentlemen," continued the president, 'I will copy this off,' and again he withdrew and made a copy of the address."—Independent.

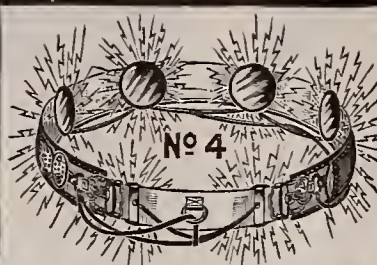
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Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

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Our latest catalogue of cut paper patterns for fall and winter dresses will be sent free upon request. **FARM AND FIRESIDE, Springfield, O.**

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FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

DR. HORNE'S New Improved ELECTRIC BELTS

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Torpid Liver
Throat Troubles
Kidney Complaints
Sleeplessness
Nervous Debility

Cold Extremities
Female Complaints
Pains in the Back and Limbs
All Weaknesses in Men and Women.

Your First and LAST OPPORTUNITY

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THIS COUPON is good for

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THIS OFFER IS GOOD FOR 30 DAYS ONLY

We make this Special Unprecedented Offer to Quickly Introduce and Obtain Agents in New Localities.

To quickly introduce and obtain agents in as many new localities as possible for Dr. Horne's New Improved Electric Belts and Appliances, we have decided to sell for 30 days only, our No. 4 Dr. Horne's New Improved Regular \$20.00 Electric Belt for only \$6.66, a price that will make it possible for every person reading this advertisement to get one of our best Belts at a nominal price. Never in the history of our business have we offered to sell this Belt at such a price, but we want an agent in your locality, and we believe that if you buy a Belt you will be so well pleased with it that you will either act as our agent or help us to get one.

Remember, the Belt we are offering you for only \$6.66 is our No. 4 Dr. Horne's New Improved Regular \$20.00 Combination Belt for men or women. It is adjustable and can be worn by any member of the family. Suspensory free with every male Belt. It is the best Belt we manufacture; in fact, the Best on Earth, and we make no exception to this statement. We have sold hundreds, yes, thousands of them, up to \$40.00. There is not a family but what should have one of these Belts, as it is the best and cheapest doctor, and you do not have to go out of the house to get it. It will last you for years with proper care, and will save itself in doctor bills ten times over. These Electric Belts have cured thousands and will cure you if you will only give it a trial, as the many testimonials which we publish in our catalogue will prove.

YOU RUN NO RISK IN DEALING WITH US.

We do not ask you to send any money in advance. If you want one of these Belts we are perfectly willing to send it to your nearest express office, C. O. D., so that you can see and examine it free of any cost, just the same as if you came into our office or go into any store, and if you are perfectly satisfied with it, pay the express agent the price of the Belt and express charges and take it; otherwise it will be returned to us. Can any fairer offer be made you than this? We are the only manufacturers of Electric Belts who send Belts C. O. D., without asking one cent in advance. If you wish to send cash with order we will prepay all express charges and guarantee the Belt to be exactly as represented, or forfeit \$100.00.

WE HAVE NOW OFFERED YOU AN OPPORTUNITY OF YOUR LIFE and if you do not accept it you may be sorry for it, as we shall never again offer this Belt at such a price. It seems needless to say that we are sustaining a loss on every Belt we sell at the above price, but it is cheaper to introduce them in new localities in this way than to send traveling men to do it for us. If you want one of these Belts

CUT OUT COUPON

and send to us with your waist measure in inches. Don't delay. Order today if possible, otherwise you may forget it.

DR. HORNE ELECTRIC BELT & TRUSS CO.
112-114 DEARBORN ST., CHICAGO, ILL., U.S.A.

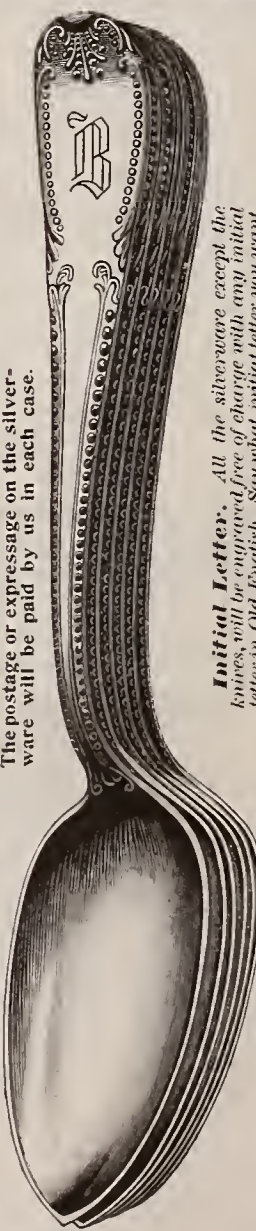
P. S.—If you have no use for an Electric Belt please hand or mail this advertisement to some one that you know, who is not enjoying good health. By doing this you will favor them and us. We want a good agent in every locality to whom we can give steady employment. We only employ those who have used our Belts and can speak of their merits from personal experience.

REFERENCES:—As to our reliability we refer to any Express Company, any Bank in Chicago, and the many thousands all over the United States who have used our Electric Belts and Appliances during the past 20 years.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

FINE SILVERWARE FREE

We absolutely guarantee every piece of this silverware to be as described and to give entire satisfaction or money refunded.



Initial Letter. All the silverware except the knives, will be engraved free of charge with any initial letter in Old English. Say what initial letter you want.

The postage or expressage on the silverware will be paid by us in each case.

This silverware can be used in cooking, eating and medicines the same as solid silver. It will not, cannot corrode or rust. Teaspoons of equal merit are sold in jewelry-stores for \$1.50 or more a set; but because we buy direct from the manufacturers in enormous quantities, and because we do not make any profit on this silverware (subscriptions and clubs are all we want), we furnish it at a great bargain. In beauty and finish it is perfect, and for daily use, year after year, there is nothing better. The base of this ware is solid nickel-silver, which is silver color through and through, and will last a lifetime. The base is well plated with coin-silver.

GRAND SPECIAL OFFERS

This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Teaspoons for 75 Cents.
This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Tablespoons for \$1.25.
This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Forks for \$1.00.
This Paper 1 year and a Set of 6 Knives for \$2.00.
This Paper 1 year and both Sugar-shell and Butter-knife, 50c.

Because it costs less to pack and ship the complete set of silverware when ordered at one time and to one address, we make the following combination offer:

We will send the complete set of silverware, 26 pieces in all, and this paper FIVE years, for FIVE DOLLARS. (This offer can count as ONE yearly subscription only in a club).

Positively no reduction will be made or allowed from the prices named above.

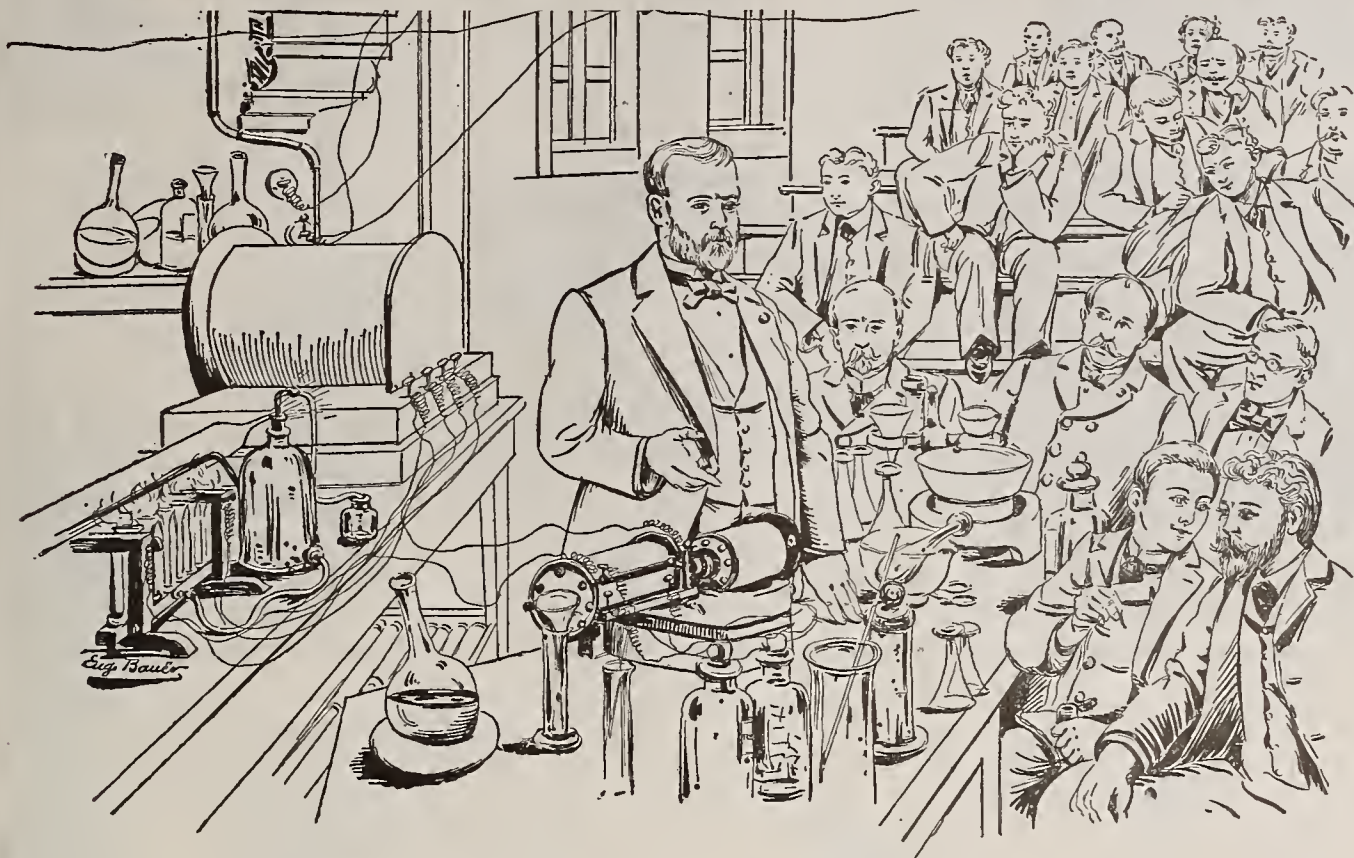
FREE FOR CLUBS

Set of 6 Teaspoons given for a club of FOUR.
Set of 6 Tablespoons given for a club of SIX.
Set of 6 Forks given for a club of FIVE.
Six Knives for a club of FIVE and \$1.00 cash.
Sugar-shell (both) given for a club of THREE.
Butter-knife

A subscriber may accept any offer and the name can be counted in a club. RENEWALS and new names, including a club-raiser's own subscription, can be counted in a club.

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THE DREAD CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED



A scene in the Slocum Laboratory, New York City, demonstrating to Medical Men and Students the Value and Wonderful Curative Powers of his New Discoveries.—Sketched for Farm and Fireside.

NOTE.—All readers of this paper can have Three Free Bottles of the Doctor's New Discoveries, with complete directions, by sending their full address to T. A. Slocum's Laboratory, 98 Pine Street, New York City.

Miscellaneous.

"UNTIL THE DAYBREAK."

A human soul went forth into the night,
Shutting behind Death's mysterious door,
And shaking off with strange, resistless might
The dust that once it wore.
So swift its flight, so suddenly it sped—
As when by skillful hand a bow is bent
The arrow flies—those watching round the bed
Marked not the way it went.

Heavy, with grief, their aching, tear-dimmed eyes
Saw but the shadow fall, and knew not when,
Or in what fair or unfamiliar guise,
It left the world of men.
It broke from Sickness, that with iron bands
Had bound it fast for many a grievous day;
And Love itself with its restraining hands
Might not its course delay.

Space could not hold it back with fettering bars,
Time lost its power, and ceased at last to be;
It swept beyond the boundary of the stars
And touched eternity.
Out from the house of mourning faintly lit
It passed upon its journey all alone;
So far not even Thought could follow it
Into those realms unknown.

Through the clear silence of the moonless dark,
Leaving no footprint of the road it trod,
Straight as an arrow cleaving to its mark,
The Soul went home to God.
"Alas!" they cried, "he never saw the morn,
But fell asleep outwearied with the strife."
Nay, rather, he arose and met the Dawn
Of Everlasting Life.
—Christian Burke, in "Pall Mall Magazine."

THE MANGO TRICK.

M. Ragonneau, a French scientist, has just exposed the celebrated mango trick of India. The Yoghis have long performed this trick to the astonishment of all beholders. They plant a seed in the earth and cover it with a cloth. Within a quarter of an hour the cloth begins to be pushed up by the growing plant, which in a short time attains the height of several feet. It now appears that the Hindus always embedded the seed in particular soil. M. Ragonneau found out at last that the soil was obtained from ant-hills. As ants contain much formic acid, with which of course the soil of their habitations becomes charged, the soil itself, like the acid, has the power of quickly dissolving the integument about a seed, and of stimulating marvelously the growth of the germ within. Though the clever Frenchman was finally able to duplicate the

mango trick, the most interesting thing about it all is that this discovery may be profitably applied to agriculture. M. Ragonneau has obtained an acid as strong as vinegar by infusing ants in boiling water, and with this acid has achieved a remarkable vegetable growth.

WATCHERS FOR THE MORNING.

"The morning cometh." Earth's golden age is yet to come. God hath promised it. Many are the longing eyes turned toward the eastern sky. The tried and tempted Christian longs for the dawn of that day. The bereaved heart waits for its coming, for them which "sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."

The Christian worker is among the watchers, for they "do greatly err" who think that those who look for the Lord's return spend their time in idle day-dreaming and sentimental star-gazing. The most earnest and faithful Christians are found among those that maintain the New Testament attitude of watching for the appearing of the Lord Jesus.

It is this hope that gives the Christian cheer amid the shadows and gloom that gathers around his path. He who looks for the coming of the Lord, and the new heaven and the new earth is the true optimist. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."—Rev. Jesse S. Gilbert, in Herald of the Coming One.

KEEP THE HOUSE TIDY.

Spurgeon once said, "I have no faith in the woman who talks grace and glory abroad and uses no soap at home. Let the buttons be on the shirts; let the children's socks be mended; let the roast mutton be done to a turn; let the house be as neat as a new pin, and the home be as happy as a home can be; and then, when the cannon-balls and the marbles and the shots and even the grains of sand are all in the box, even then there will be room for those little deeds of love and faith which in the Master's name I seek of you who love his appearing. Serve God by doing common actions in a heavenly spirit; and then, if your daily calling only leaves you with cracks and crevices of time, fill them up with holy service."—Restitution.

LINES ON HUXLEY'S TOMB.

Here are the lines engraved upon the tomb of Professor Huxley:

And if there be no meeting past the grave,
If all is darkness, silence, yet 'tis rest.
Be not afraid, ye waiting hearts that weep!
For God still giveth his beloved sleep.
And if an endless sleep he wills, so best!

THE NEW PROVERB.

There is enough expended every year in wines, distilled liquors and other luxuries, by those who cannot afford the expense, to build every laboring man a cottage, give him a neat garden and supply his family with bread and clothes; but of course it is unpleasant to mention anything of this kind, while it is so much easier to scold those who have tried to lay in store against a rainy day and to themselves become employers of labor. The proverb of the ant, that patiently toils and stores, has been outgrown, and the new proverb is: "Go to the walking delegates, to Debs, et omnia genera; behold, they neither toil nor spin, but talk great swelling words, revel in dreams and threats of blood and glory, yet they bleed not themselves, but only bleed the office-seekers and the unsophisticated, confiding, credulous toilers and an occasional employer who wishes to down a rival by means fair or foul. Yet Solomon in all his glory was not so filled with pride, good wines and liquors, or so regaled with finest brands of cigars."

ATTRACTIVE WOMEN.

It is the woman that has the courage to be herself who attracts. Originals are so much more desirable than copies, no matter how accurate the copy may be. Let every woman dare to be herself, develop her own individuality, not blindly copy some other woman, whom, it may be, her husband happens to admire. Let her think for herself, act for herself, and express her own honest opinions. Individuality, when combined with that nameless something called manner, is the most potent weapon in the possession of the sex. A good woman's laugh is better than medicine. A well-told story is as welcome as a sunbeam in a sick-room. Learn to keep your own troubles to yourself. The world is too busy to care for your ills and sorrows. Don't continually cry. Tears do well enough in novels, but they are not desirable in real life.

DON'T BE BABYISH.

If you have a backache or a headache, don't often complain about it. If a lesson is to be learned, a journey to be taken, or a piece of work to be done, don't grumble, but do it bravely. "Don't you dread to do it?" said one person to another in our hearing recently. "If I have a duty, I go ahead and never stop to think about it," was the reply. The boy or girl who cannot overcome obstacles does not deserve success. Easy pathways make very weak persons usually.

AT LAST!

A Cure for Consumption, Catarrh and Lung Troubles that Cures.

Remarkable Discovery of an American Chemist.

ITS GREAT VALUE TO HUMANITY.

How Every Reader of This Paper May Obtain the New and Free Scientific System of Medicine.

CORRESPONDENCE-ADVICE ABSOLUTELY FREE AND PROFESSIONALLY CONFIDENTIAL.

The wide, unexplored field of modern chemistry is daily astounding the world with new wonders. Professor and layman vie with each other in their commendable efforts to lessen the ills of humanity. Yesterday it was Pasteur and Koch, and today it is Slocum, with a new discovery which has been the result of years of careful study and research.

Foremost among the world's greatest chemists stands T. A. Slocum, of New York City. His researches and experiments, patiently carried on for years, have finally culminated in results which will prove as beneficial to humanity as the discoveries of any chemist, ancient or modern. His efforts, which for years had been directed toward the discovery of a positive cure for consumption, were finally successful, and already his "new scientific system of medicine" has, by its timely use, permanently cured thousands of apparently hopeless cases, and it seems a necessary and humane duty to bring such facts to the attention of all invalids.

The medical profession throughout America and Europe are about unanimous in the opinion that nearly all physical ailments naturally tend to the generation of consumption. The afflicted die in the short, cold days of winter much faster than in the long, hot days of summer.

The Doctor has proved the dreaded disease to be curable beyond a doubt, in any climate, and has on file in his American and European laboratories thousands of letters of heartfelt gratitude from those benefited and cured in all parts of the world.

No one having, or threatened with, any disease, should hesitate a day. Facts prove that the Doctor has discovered a reliable and absolute cure for Consumption (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) and all bronchial, throat, lung and chest troubles, stubborn coughs, catarrhal affections, scrofula, general decline and weakness, loss of flesh, and all wasting conditions, and, to make its wonderful merits known, he will send Three Free Bottles (all different) of his New Discoveries, with full instructions, to any reader of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

Simply write to T. A. Slocum, M. C., 98 Pine street, New York, giving full address.

There is no charge for correspondence advice—strictly professionally confidential.

Knowing, as we do, of the undoubted efficacy of the Slocum System of Medicine, every sufferer should take advantage of this most liberal proposition.

A system of medical treatment that will cure catarrh, lung troubles and consumption is certainly good for—and will cure—almost any disease that humanity is heir to.

When writing the Doctor, please mention FARM AND FIRESIDE.

OF UNCERTAIN ORIGIN.

"Auld Lang Syne" is of uncertain origin, there being several versions of this deservedly popular song. One of the best is by Burns, but only the second and third stanzas are by this poet, the remainder being from the pen of Ramsey. The song is of uncertain antiquity; one version is said to date from the sixteenth century.

Fruit.

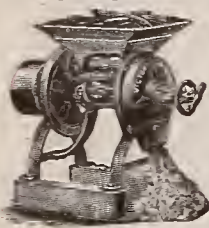
Trees and Vines become hardier, and their products better flavored when liberally treated with fertilizers containing at least 10% actual

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CORN ECONOMY



consists in grinding the grain so that no part of it will escape mastication and digestion by the animals to which it is fed.

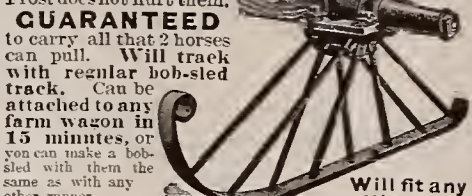
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are world beaters as feed preparers; grind all grains singly or mixed; they crush corn cob and all, and turn it into meal. The prices are right. It will pay you to get our prices and catalogue before buying.

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WROUGHT STEEL SLED RUNNERS

Frost does not hurt them. GUARANTEED to carry all that 2 horses can pull. Will track with regular bob-sled track. Can be attached to any farm wagon in 15 minutes, or you can make a bob-sled with them the same as with any other runner.



Will fit any Wagon.
One set, 4 runners, with tire 1 9-16 in. wide, \$ 7.00 Weight, 170 lbs.
One set, 4 runners, with tire 2 inches wide, \$ 8.00 Weight, 200 lbs.
One set, 4 runners, with tire 3 inches wide, \$ 9.00 Weight, 240 lbs.
One set, 4 runners, with tire 4 inches wide, \$10.00 Weight, 280 lbs.
One set, 4 runners, with tire 5 inches wide, \$11.00 Weight, 320 lbs.
Sole 1-2 inch thick. CAN SHIP PROMPTLY.
ELECTRIC WHEEL CO., Cor. 5th & Ohio Sts., Quincy, Ill.
Mention this paper.

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They will drill to any depth, through any substance and always produce a strong living well. We make them in 8 sizes, suitable for drilling for water, gas or oil. We have a new spudding and pipe driving attachment that will be appreciated by well drillers. We carry a full line of tools and supplies which are fully described in our free catalog. Star Drilling Machine Co. Akron, O.

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Vise, Drill, Awl, Tool Grinders, Pipe Clamp, Sewing Clamp, Shoe Last and Cut-Off.
ONCE SHOWN, SELLS ITSELF.
Five particulars, enclosed stamp and mention this paper.
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